No 61.730

THE TIMES

THURSDAY JANUARY 5 1984

20p

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Sailing . . .
Spectrum looks at the revival of travel writing with a boat trip through Borneo

. . . with the tide
The curious current that could spell disaster for the weather

Lady . . .
When is a lady not a lady? *Philip Howard* on a matter of manners

. . . love
Rex Bellamy reports on the world doubles tennis *championship* at the Albert Hall

500 escape in jumbos near miss

The US Federal Aviation Administration is investigating a near collision between two Pan-American jumbo jets carrying a total of more than 500 people. The aircraft, one from London, one from New York, came within 600ft of each other over the Bahamas on January 1 Page 6

Inquest into felt tip pen death

An inquest was opened yesterday in Southampton into the death of a boy, aged six, who died after swallowing the top of a scented felt tip pen which he had been given as a Christmas present from his parents.

Matthew Chambers of Binstead, *Isle of Wight*, was pronounced clinically dead, and his life-support machine was switched off after consultations with his parents. The inquest was adjourned until February 15.

Customs seize £62.9m of drugs

The value of drugs seized by the customs rose by more than £12m last year to a record £62.9m. Heroin worth £25m and cocaine valued at £12m were discovered Page 4

BBC meters

The BBC may have to consider *charging* for its broadcasts through home meters, a report by the Broadcasting Research Unit says Page 12

Tea crisis

The sudden jump in tea prices at the London auctions arose from Indian fears of a shortage to meet domestic demand. This caused India to ban certain tea exports Page 7

Journalist dies

Richard Hughes, *The Times* Hongkong Correspondent, the best known and most colourful journalist in the Far East, died in hospital in Hongkong, aged 77 Profile, page 6
Obituary, page 12

Airbus orders

Northeastern, the US airline, has ordered two of the A300 European airbuses which are partly built in Britain. It will take delivery of the 314-seat jet in June

£30m for bridge

The Government is expected to approve spending of more than £30m to strengthen the Severn Bridge amid concern over its safety Page 4

ECGD crisis

The Export Credits Guarantee Department, stung by record claims against it, has revealed that it expects to exhaust its cash reserves within the next few months Page 15

Lillee era ends

Dennis Lillee has announced his retirement from Test cricket and will not *play for Australia* again. Lillee, who is playing in the fifth Test match between Australia and Pakistan will play out the season with Western Australia Page 17

Thatcher bars way to hasty US Beirut withdrawal

● Mrs Thatcher, in a warning signal to President Reagan, said last night the *multinational force must stay in Beirut to* prevent a bloodbath.

● Mr Reagan, upstaged by the Rev Jesse Jackson's mission to Damascus, said he was willing to meet Syria's President Assad.

● Israel is planning a big redeployment and reduction of forces in southern *Lebanon, to make them less vulnerable to* guerrilla attack.

● The Israeli bombing in the Bekaa Valley killed nearly 100 people, including women and children, according to hospital sources (Report, page 6)

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, last night barred the way to any rushed American withdrawal from Beirut. She said in an ITN interview that there could be no possibility of a pull-out by the multinational force because the military vacuum would be turned into a bloodbath.

The only opening for a withdrawal, she said, would be for a replacement force to be provided by the United Nations. In spite of the fact that *she revealed that the British* ambassador in New York had been actively engaged in diplomatic efforts to build agreement for such a replacement, she has already reported to the Com*mons that the Soviet Union* refuses its support.

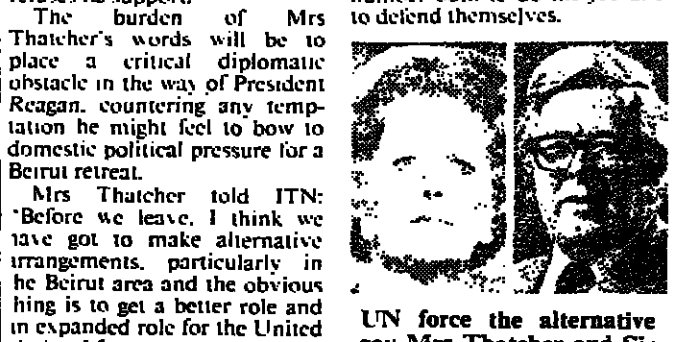
The burden of Mrs Thatcher's words will be to place a critical diplomatic obstacle in the way of President *Reagan*, countering any temptation he might feel to bow to domestic political pressure for a Beirut retreat.

Mrs Thatcher told ITN: "Before we leave, I think we have got to make alternative arrangements, particularly in the Beirut area and the obvious thing is to get a better role and an expanded role for the United Nations' forces.

"I think we must act together and we can't just come out of the Beirut area and leave a vacuum there. You remember how terrible it was before the multinational force went in, and if there was terrible slaughter again, we should all feel very, very guilty indeed that we had not made proper alternative arrangements."

Mrs Thatcher's blunt warning is bound to be regarded as a brake on any precipitate American action, if only because there are no great hopes of a UN *initiative in New York*.

She also said: "The British troops are very, very highly thought of in Beirut. We have only 110 there. We couldn't go down to any lower number *because they wouldn't have the* number both to do the job and to defend themselves.



UN force the alternative say Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey

"They have protected Beirut. They go out and about on tours in scout cars. They are very widely welcomed by the Beirut people, and they actually protect the building where the ceasefire talks constantly take place."

● **A way out:** Western political leaders are *increasingly looking* to the UN to provide a means of withdrawing (Rodney Cowton writes).

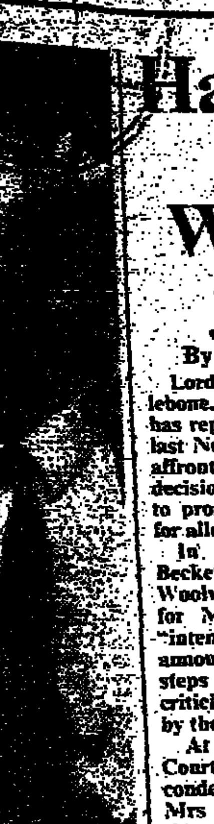
The UN has its Unifil peace force in southern Lebanon, and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday they had been discussing for some time with the UN whether a larger role could not be filled by a *UN-sponsored force*.

It was announced yesterday that Sir Geoffrey is to visit the Middle East for five days from next Sunday. He will also meet Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Russian Foreign *Minister*, at the Stockholm conference on January 16.

Sir Geoffrey is likely to seize both opportunities to assess what potential there is for encouraging the UN to undertake a role in Beirut. It would not be the first time that attempts had been made to extend its role, but, so far, it has

Continued on back page, col 1





Mr Andreas Papandreou, Greek Prime Minister, welcoming Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour Party leader, to Athens yesterday with his son Stephen. Mr Kinnock said it was up to Britain to withdraw its contingent from Lebanon to help the Americans to pull out without losing credibility

Hailsham raps Woolies judge

By Michael Horsnell

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, has reprimanded the judge who last November attacked as "an affront to British justice" a decision by G. W. Woolworth to prosecute a widow aged 77 for alleged shoplifting.

In a letter to Mr John Beckett, the chairman of Woolworth, he also apologized for Mr Recorder Goldstein's "intemperate" remarks and announced that he had taken steps to ensure that similar criticism is never again made by the judiciary.

At Wood Green Crown Court, North London the judge condemned Woolworth when Mrs Eva Ronsley, a mother of three, was brought before him accused of *stealing* 13 items worth £30 from the company's Edmonton store.

"If Woolworth want the sadistic pleasure of prosecuting this woman they will pay for it. "I have every intention of making sure they pay their own costs and every penny of defence costs."

The store withdrew its case and a formal not guilty verdict was recorded against Mrs Ronsley, of Flamstead End, Cheshunt.

Mr Goldstein, aged 48, a recorder of the Crown Court since 1980, told Mrs Ronsley: "May I apologize to you on behalf of all of us who are associated with the court that you, at 77, a lady who has worked hard throughout her life, bringing up a family and then having to bury your husband, should be *subjected to* this humiliation".

Mr Recorder Goldstein also condemned the private prosecution as a "public disgrace".

Mr Beckett, who had accused the judge of "orchestrating the occasion and making ill-considered statements", had complained to Lord Hailsham shortly afterwards.

In a letter to Mr Beckett, Lord Hailsham, head of the judiciary, said that it was not open to him to comment on decisions but he felt free to consider behaviour.

Lord Hailsham added: "I have read the documents and conclude from them that Recorder Goldstein's conduct was intemperate and made before he had heard the evidence in the case. It follows that his remarks should not have been made. I have written to him to this effect".

Mr Beckett told *The Times*: "The action we took has been vindicated and I am very happy the Lord Chancellor has put it in such clear terms. If the recorder's comments that some over-age people should be regarded as incapable of prosecution had stood that would have been an invitation to steal and to expect to get off scot-free".

Mr Goldstein refused to comment on the Lord Chancellor's remarks.

Big security test as London hosts economic summit

By Stewart Tendler and Frances Williams

The Prime Minister is to host the tenth economic summit of leading Western nations at Lancaster House in St James's, London, from June 7 to 9.

It will be attended by the leaders of the seven biggest industrial econimies – the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Japan, Canada and Italy and the President of the European Commission, M *Gaston Thorn*.

The gathering of so many heads of government, including President Reagan, together with up to a thousand officials and advisers and as many as 4,000 journalists, will pose a formidable security problem and work had already started on the arrangements before the date and venue were announced yesterday.

Lancaster House has often been used for conferences, including the Rhodesian Constitutional Conference and the 1977 summit, security measures *are tried and tested*.

London was preferred to a country site like Chequers or Leeds Castle in Kent because it is felt that the proceedings can be dissipated if the summit is not held somewhere central.

But Lancaster House does not have accommodation and deciding on safe housing for the participants will be a major problem. Ambassadors' residencies and hotels such as Claridges are likely choices.

The summit will mean considerable work for Scotland Yard's Special Branch, which *has a long-standing function to* provide protection for important visitors. There are little more than 400 officers involved in Special Branch duties and extra men may have to be brought in from provincial forces.

The summit itself is unlikely to have a set agenda, after the success of the informal arrangements at Williamsburg, Pennsylvania, last year.

But the [illegible] certain to focus on [illegible] economic situation [illegible] sustain growth [illegible] ing inflation; [illegible] the international [illegible] and reform of the [illegible] monetary system.

The United States [illegible] face renewed [illegible] swollen budget [illegible] interest rates and [illegible] dollar.

The American [illegible] new heights in [illegible] foreign exchange [illegible]

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, sent a stiff letter yesterday to M Gaston Thorn, the president of the European Commission, demanding action on paying the £42m rebate to Britain outstanding from 1982 and due to be paid last week

[illegible] terday. Depressing the pound and leaving other currencies trailing.

Sterling closed [illegible] down at $1.4205, after [illegible] as low as $1.4130 at one stage and its value against a basket of leading currencies slipped [illegible] to 82.0. But the pound recovered some of its previous day's [illegible] as fears that Nigeria might upset the oil market subsided

The Bank of England was thought to be intervening on a small scale at one stage to stem the slide.

The December official reserves figures, released in the Treasury yesterday, also suggest modest intervention by the Bank of England to support the pound last month. There was an underlying drop in Britain's gold and foreign currency holdings of $193m, leaving the reserves at $17,8[illegible]m (£12,271m).

The summit leaders will also consider a report commissioned at Williamsburg last year on ways of improving the international monetary system

Slow death warning to shipyards

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

British Shipbuilders' executives predicted "a slow, painful death" unless *tomorrow's* national strike was called off after a third day of fruitless talks at the London offices of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

The BS negotiators did not meet union leaders who through officials, rejected a management call that the strike threat should be lifted in return for a reopening of bilateral discussions on new working practices.

Union negotiators last night briefed delegates from the 23 shipyards where work is due to stop at 4.30pm. But *there* were growing signs that support might be wavering after a postal ballot of members of the third biggest union, the Electrical Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, which has about 9,000 workers in the yards, rejected a strike by 147 votes.

Most of the 10,000 white-collar workers are expected to report for work on Monday, but there was little sign of a weakening in the determination of delegates representing 40,000 manual workers last night.

Over the next 48 hours yard managements will appeal to their workforces to ignore the strike call. They will be told that several large orders will be lost if it goes ahead.

Shipbuilders face shutdown, Page 2

Reagan is willing to meet Assad

From Christopher Thomas Washington

President Reagan said yesterday that "of course" he was willing to meet President Assad of Syria, adding a significant dimension to America's renewed Middle East peace efforts.

"We have opened communications", he said in unrehearsed *remarks* at the end of a welcoming ceremony in the rose garden of the White House for Lieutenant Robert Goodman, the United States airman shot down by the Syrians

President Reagan thanked President Assad by letter for releasing Lieutenant Goodman, and said his return presented "an opportune moment to put all the issues on the table" between the United States and Syria.

Syria's determination to assert its role in the Middle East would be given a big boost if a meeting between the two Presidents did take place, and there was considerable confusion last night about Mr Reagan's intentions, particularly as he regards Syria as a close ally of the Soviet Union.

Mr Reagan has clearly been upstaged by the Rev Jesse Jackson's coup in securing Mr Goodman's release, and the decision to host a White Hosue *welcome* was a calculated attempt to get in on the act, according to Administration officials.

Mr Goodman, aged 27, stood confidently beside the President *in front* of a battery of television cameras.

He praised Mr Reagan for not interfering with or intervening in his mission to Damascus. Mr Jackson, whose public utterances make him the most pro-Arab of the eight Democratic presidential contenders, said that the Syrians had the right to kill Mr Goodnman but did not do so. "Thus we see another fight on this day."

The President said that Mr Goodman was flying a mission of peace, and both during and after the mission he had exemplified the qualities of *leadership and loyalty*.

Israelis planning big troop withdrawal

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

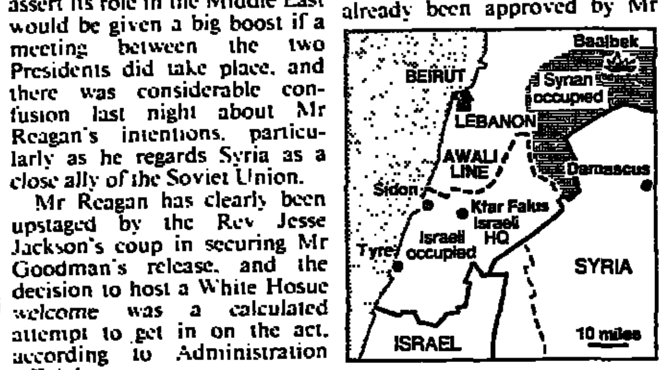
A plan for sharp cutbacks and a new deployment of Israeli forces in southern Lebanon was presented yesterday to Mr Yitzhak Shamir, Israel's Prime Minister.

It includes a substantial thinning out of Israel presence in the main occupied cities of Sidon and Tyre.

Already, in a little-publicized move, the bulk of Israel's *headquarters has been moved* from the centre of Sidon to new quarters, 12 miles inland, in former Phalangist at Kfar Falus.

The thrust of the Israelis' plan is to reduce the targets they present *in the south* by concentrating on mobile patrols and also to cut costs, now $1m (£690,000) a day. The plan will soon be presented to the Cabinet for approval.

The project which amounts to a sweeping re-assessment of Israel's role in Lebanon, has already been approved by Mr



Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister and Lieutenant-General Moshe Levy, chief of staff.

It is seen as an important step in the direction of a second Israeli withdrawal south of Sidon to a new frontline closer to the Israeli border than that of the Awali river, established as Israel's forward position in September.

Military sources told *The Times* the re-assessment had been motivated by two main factors: the increasing and unacceptable number of Israeli casualties and recent economic constraints imposed as results of cuts in the defence budget.

Less official emphasis is being laid on growing antagonism towards Israel's military presence in Lebanon, shown in recent opinion polls.

One key element of the rethink has been a waiving of the previously sacrosanct principle of demending simultanious Syrian withdrawal as a condition for Israel's final departure from Lebanon.

But it was emphasized yesterday that the cutbacks would be limited to coastal *areas and not to the eastern* secor, where Israeli and Syrian troops will still face each other along the tenuous ceasefire line.

The sources described the plan as the final nail in the coffin of any idea that Israel might be regarding southern Lebanon as a "north bank" designed for indefinite military occupation, like the West Bank, which was conquered in 1967.

The main feature of the scheme is to conduct gradual pull-backs without leaving what one officer described as "a dangerous vacuum" in southern *Lebanon*.

In the absence of an agreement in Beirut which would allow evacuated territory to be handed to the Lebanese Army, it would be assigned to pro-*Israeli local militias* or fighters loyal to the ailing Christian militia leader, Major Saad Haddad.

The Israelis disclosed yesterday that the major, who has cancer and in in hospital in Haifa, has only "hours, or, at the most, days" to live.

Although the major's expected death will present Israel with new security problems, some officers believe it might help to pave the way for better relations with Shia Muslims in the south and lead to closer links between southern Lebanon and President Gemayel's embattled government in Beirut.

Israeli military and intelligence chiefs are searching for a successor to Major Haddad, who, they said, had no given his blessing to any one man among his militia forces.

Israeli sources acknowledged that it would be hard to find anyone able to exert the political influence Major Haddad had built up

Nigeria's leader justifies coup and scorns Shagari

Lagos (Reuter) – Major-General Mohammed Buhari, Nigeria's new head of state, yesterday defended the coup which brought him to power, saying the ousted government had not brought democracy to the country.

"Before apologists for democracy rust to judgment, let them admit that the presidential system of government and democracy as practised in Nigeria in the last four years had become a veritable mill stone around the country's neck," he said.

"Continuation of that system would have sunk Nigeria into the abyss of total economic collapse and political chaos." Ggeneral Buhari said President Shagari's Government had openly plundered the national treasury.

Last year's federal and state elections in August and September had been shamelessly rigged, the general said. Government was imposed on the people by the "scandalous use of a mixture of political thuggery and widescale bribery".

Equity move may enliven West End theatres

By David Hewson

London's West End theatres are expected to experiment with opening Sundays this year after a decision by the ruling council of Equity, the actors' union, to drop its opposition to working during the weekend.

The union has signed a Sunday opening agreement with one West End show, *Snoopy*, which will put on a *4.30pm performance at the* Duchess Theatre each Sunday from January 22.

Mr Alan Wallace, Equity's West End organizer, said yesterday that the union would be happy to negotiate similar agreements with other managements if Sunday performances were supported by the cast involved.

There is already an agreement between Equity and the Phoenix Theatre for a pantomime, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, to be staged on Sundays.

Mr Max Howard, co-producer of *Snoopy*, which opened last September, said that Sunday opening was essential for the health of the West End. "Every Sunday we see the Covent Garden area thronging *with people looking for things* to do. We would be crazy not to take advantage of this ready-made audience and to fulfil the public need for entertainment."

"Sunday parking is easy, *and it is a family day when* families are looking for entertainment."

The show will drop its Monday night performance, traditionally the poorest of the week in the West End, which has recently been playing to 40 per cent audiences. The Sunday show will increase the cast's wages by one eighth, an essential condition to Equity's agreement to the deal. The company, a cast of seven, two understudies and three stage managers, agreed unanimously to the offer in a secret ballot.

Mr Teddy Kempner, who plays the *title role*, said that Sunday performances delighted the cast, giving them two nights at home instead of the present one, and extra money. "I have worked in New York and most *shows seem to do very well* there on Sundays, it is sometimes the high point of their week".

The union will negotiate individual approaches from West End managements for Sunday working agreements, but a blanket deal for weekend opening, which is the aim of the Society of West End Theatres, will need to be put to a ballot of the full Equity membership.

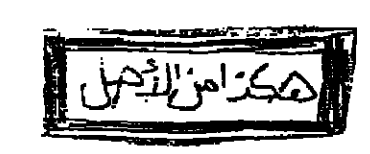
Equity's decision was welcomed by the Theatre of Comedy, which produces shows at the Ambassadors and the Shaftesbury. Mrs Jean Cok, one of the theatre's directors, said: "We are planning to run one-off Sunday performances, but it may be that we can run Sunday performances of our current production and put the one-off show on the Monday night. It is our intention to get both theatres working seven days a week so we find this encouraging news."

Sir Peter Hall, the director of the National Theatre, said last night: "To have Sunday performances is something I have wanted ever since we opened on the South Bank but we have costed it and the added expense has always worked out too high. This new development is very interesting and we will certainly be looking at the idea again in the light of it."

The Royal Shakespeare Company *said that* it was "very interested" by the development and was looking at ways of opening at the Barbican on Sundays.

Although a number of *provincial* theatres have negotiated agreements with Equity to open on Sundays in the past, the practice has not flourished among them.





Merchant shipbuilders face shutdown unless orders won soon

By Colin Hughes

The merchant shipbuilding division of British Shipbuilders appears to be losing the fight for survival, a survey of the company's 23 yards showed yesterday.

Although those working on Royal Navy warships and support vessels have orders up to 1987, many yards working on civil contracts will have run out of orders by the beginning of next year. Most contracts that are underway are on or ahead of schedule.

British Shipbuilders said yesterday: "Unless orders are won in the next few months it is fair to say there won't be much of a merchant building industry by 1985."

Managing directors were clear that present orders would fall behind schedule if the shipyard strike went ahead next week, and some such as Vosper Thorneycroft in Southampton, have appealed directly to their workers not to walk out.

Small yards have slim hopes of finding new work, and at least three face imminent closure.

British Shipbuilders added: "To be sure of keeping in progress a yard needs two the three years of work on the books. Many of ours have only six to twelve months."

By November 30 last year 34 merchant ships of a total 378,204 tonnes gross were being built, worth 500m. That figure had dropped from the 57 ships of 816,998 tonnes gross, worth £680, being bult a year before.

Naval shipbuilding a month ago stood at 97,239 tonnes, worth £1.8bn, an increase on 1982 figures. A survey of yards in the merchant shipbuilding division showed:

Austin and Pickersgill, Sunderland, 1,800 workers. Three bulk carriers and three cargo vessels, no delays for delivery next year.

Govan Shipbuilders, Clydeside, 2,500 workers. Building two bulk carriers for Norwegian firm, due to be delivered late spring. "We are running out of work, and need new contracts."

Smith's Dock, Cleveland, 1,700 workers. Ahead of schedule on two roll-on, roll-off, ships for Brazil, the second due in May next year.

Sunderland Shipbuilders, 2,200 workers in three yards. On time with three years work on five bulk carriers and two diving support ships.

Appledore Shipbuilders, north Devon, 750 workers. New order for cargo vessel for Iceland due next year.

Ferguson-Ailsa, 800 workers at Troon and Port Glasgow. "We need orders within three months. Six tugs for Kenya and the new Arran car ferry are on time, but will be finished by the end of this year."

Hall Russell, Aberdeen, 800 workers. "We are urgently seeking work now." They are building four patrol craft, on time, for Hongkong.

Cleland Shipbuilders, Clydeside, **Henry Robb**, Leith, and **Goole Shipbuilders**, Humber. No fresh orders and face "serious risk of closure".

The composite four-yard Tyneside company, Swan Hunter, with 7,500 workers, are building the new Ark Royal aircraft carrier, a Type 42 destroyer, and two Type 22 frigates, due by late 1987.

Three merchant vessels are underway, including a container ship for Cunard, which is delayed. "We have been slightly behind on a couple of pro-

[illegible]

Angry inquest on pit flooding

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

A clash between miners in South Wales and the coal board was averted last night when a union official was said to have given an apology for the circumstances which led to the flooding of a £2m seam regarded as the lifeline of the loss-making Maerdy pit in the Rhondda valley.

A day of furious arguments between the two sides ended when the board said it had received the apology from Mr Arfon Evans, the National Union of Mineworkers lodge chairman at the pit. Mr Evans was not available for comment, but other miners said that pumps were being moved to the coalface.

Accusations by Mr Philip Weekes, South Wales area director of the NCB that the men were guilty of wanton destruction were denied by Mr Emlyn Williams, the miners' president, who accused the board of industrial sabotage.

As they argued over who a responsible, expensive new machinery at the face was submerged beneath an estimated 550,000 gallons of water. The pit known, as Little Moscow because of the militancy of the men, is the only one remaining in the valley.

Mr Williams had said that if the board did not pump out the water the miners would do it themselves. "We would not have the legal authority to do this, but the moral argument would be on our side."

The board had laid the blame firmly on the union because of its overtime ban. Mr Weekes said: "It does seem incredible that self-imposed rules are being applied so tightly that they are now affecting the very livelihood of this colliery. Everyone at Maerdy knows that the mine depends on this face for improved results and it is wantonly destructive that we should find ourselves faced with this position."

According to the board an original decision by the union's local emergency committee to provide help last Friday had been countermandated, with the result that the pit was now flooded.

Mr Williams claimed the situation had been deliberately engineered by the board as a warning to the rest of the coalfield.

Job warning to car workers

By Clifford Webb
Motoring Correspondent

All ... workers at BL's ... subsidiary were ... managing direct... that if they voted ... today to strike ... would be lost ... 560 already plann...

Tw... the company ... closure of nine ... concentrate man... Solihull where the ... car plant will be recast.

Str... to attract any ... men seeking bump... packets for Christmas.

But ... is the issue. Today ... meetings at all Land ... and one Freight Rover plant will be urged ... the company's £8.75 ... and strike in support of the union's claim for £19.50.

In ... to workers yesterday Mr Tony Gilroy, managing director, said that if there was a strike he would not meet ... offer and jobs would be lost.

Mr ..., Solihull plant convenor for the Transport and General Workers' Union, said: "I am deeply concerned about the jobs of everybody including myself but there is no other course of action but to recommend a strike."

Doctors seek a 17% pay rise

Doctors leaders have put in to their pay review body, evidence which argues for rises in the region of 17 per cent, at a time when inflation is below 5 per cent.

The evidence, which is confidential, is understood to argue that doctors have fallen about 11 per cent behind comparable professional groups since 1980 in part as a result of the Government phasing past awards.

Keays baby was caesarean birth

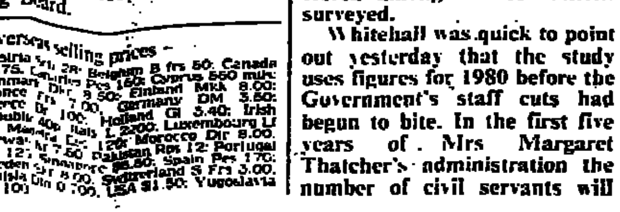
Mrs Sara Keays, whose daughter by Mr Cecil Parkinson, the former Cabinet minister, was born on New Year's Eve, had a caesarean section delivery it was disclosed last night.

Her sister, Mrs Elisabeth Dalton, said after seeing mother and daughter at St Theresa's Hospital in Wimbledon: "Sara is coping very well. She will be in the hospital for about another week."

Power station study planned

Sketch plans for a third nuclear power station at Hinkley Point in Somerset, are to be made public soon, and a full-scale study will start into the impact it would have on Bridgwater Bay.

Experts from Oxford, who gave evidence at the Sizewell B inquiry, are being called in by the Central Electricity Generating Board.


Overseas selling prices –


The Little Chef at Newbury: Inside, a waitress at an empty table: outside, some of the Greenham peace women who were excluded (Photograph: Harry Kerr)

Women test restaurant ban

By Pat Healy

Several Greenham Common peace women were served at the Little Chef restaurant in Newbury near the airbase yesterday, despite new tactics to enforce the ban on them.

During the morning a senior member of the all-female staff stood guard in the foyer close to a large red sign saying: "We are glad you are here". But she made plain that it was not a universal welcome by locking the door after each customer and unlocking it again to let them out.

The policy was tested when some of the women who had appeared on obstruction charges at Newbury magistrates' court decided to have lunch at the restaurant.

It became clear that women were being excluded because of their appearance, and several slipped through because they looked "respectable".

One of the first was Mrs Felicity Whittaker, aged 55, from Bedford, who donned a smart cardigan for her court appearance before taking her daughter Meg, aged 23, into the restaurant. Mrs Whittaker was wearing a badge saying "Reclaim all the USAF–USN bases" but had no difficulty getting in. She and her daughter had been staying at the camp for the past few days.

She said: "It is quite obvious that I have been allowed in because I looked middle-aged and middle-class".

The Whittaker family were admitted to the restaurant some time before their Greenham colleagues began to arrive in numbers to find themselves excluded. But Ruth Phillips, aged 18, was allowed in with a male friend, while her mother Jill and brother Leo were refused entry.

Mr Phillips insisted that he was merely trying to take his mother to lunch and could not understand why his sister was allowed in but his mother was refused. He was refused his request for a vote from customers on whether his mother could be admitted after being told that the ban was because of "considerable adverse comment by customers".

Miss Helen John, one of the original Greenham women, spent some time attempting to persuade Mrs Vivien Szitasi, the regional manageress, that the ban was against the Sex Discrimination Act and locking the door was contrary to public health and fire regulations. Mrs Szitasi said she was simply carrying out company policy.

Miss John said afterwards: "We are told we need nuclear weapons to defend our democratic freedom. I want to go in and have a coffee and a doughnut – that is the democratic freedom I want to exercise".

It was a right supported by a number of customers.

● Fines and costs totalling more than £900 were imposed by magistrates at Newbury yesterday when women peace protesters appeared there on charges of obstructing roads around the Greenham Common base (the Press Association reports).

Two courts were set aside to deal with more than 140 women, the largest number on a single day there.

Thirty-nine women pleaded guilty and were fined £15 or £10 with £10 costs. Another 82 pleaded not guilty and were remanded on bail to various dates. Arrest warrants were issued for 17.

BA halves shuttle fare to Edinburgh

By Tony Hodges

British Airways is to cut the price of its super shuttle service from London to Edinburgh from £116 return to £58 return for a two-month trial from February 6.

But the airline and its main competitors, British Midland Airways and British Caledonian, believe the cut will increase the number of passengers between the two cities rather than take passengers from the other two airlines.

The £58 ticket has to be booked 14 days in advance. It will be available on three off-peak flights mid-week and all weekend flights. It will be valid either for a day trip or a stay of up to a month.

The tickets are due to go on sale today although government approval, which BA expects shortly, has not yet been given.

British Midland Airways, which like BA operates from Heathrow to Edinburgh, felt the price cut came in response to its own cut from £85 to £74 which becomes effective on April 1.

The BA share os passengers on the route was 71 per cent a spokesman said.

British Caledonian said it had introduced in December a £60 return flight from Gatwick to Edinbugh, travelling on Friday and returning on Sunday, which compared with its normal fare of £118 return.

A British Rail spokesman said that it was too early to say what effect the cut would have on rail travel, but he felt BR offered a competitive rate.

The London to Edinburgh saver fare was £32 return except on Fridays when it was £37.

Rates Bill attacked by Howell

By Anthony Bevins
Political Correspondent

Mr David Howell, the former Conservative Cabinet minister, said yesterday that the Government had gone off the rails with its Rates Bill.

He said in a new year message to his Guildford party: "The system of central government rate support has gone haywire, with random penalty effects on counties such as Surrey, which have no rhyme, reason or logic."

Mr Howell added that the Government's legislation to limit rates increases was no answer.


Mr Howell: Government 'off the rails'

"There is a real danger that the proposed rates legislation could be used one day to extend rather than to restrict the abuse of local government power now so evident in some areas."

Local government needed to be made more accountable.

Bookmakers' tax revolt

Bookmakers in the Irish Republic yesterday began a tax revolt in protest against the Government's failure to stop the country's punters betting illegally by telephone in Britain and Northern Ireland.

That allows Irish punters to back horses at the British tax rate of 10 per cent against the 20 percent charged in the republic.

Mr Brian Fogarty, chairman of the Irish National Bookmakers' Association, said: "We have estimates from Britain that £120m sterling is bet there by Irish punters each year."

He added: "To avoid the 20 per cent tax all you need is a bank account, a credit rating and a telephone."

It was practically impossible for a bookmaker to make a living in off-course betting in the republic.

The association is to withhold £600,000 sterling in tax collected last week.

Its members want action taken to stop telephone betting. Mr Sean Moore, a spokesman for the Revenue Commissioners, said that the estimates of the amount of money involved were pure conjecture.

Britain 'boasts most bureaucrats'

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Britain has more bureaucrats in relation to its size and wealth than any other country, according to a new study from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

It says that Britain has twice as many civil servants as might be expected from its population and living standards, a level of bureaucracy matched only by Korea among the 83 nations surveyed.

Whitehall was quick to point out yesterday that the study uses figures for 1980 before the Government's staff cuts had begun to bite. In the first five years of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's administration the number of civil servants will have been cut by 14 per cent, to 630,000, the lowest number since the Second World War, and a further 6 per cent reduction is planned over the four years to 1988.

The IMF's results suggest, however, that the imbalance in government employment will remain.

Britain fares less badly when local government is included, employing about 50 per cent more than might be expected.

Britain's bureaucracy is most overstaffed in administration, with three times the number of civil servants than expected, and in finance and planning, with four times the expected number.

But Britain's civil servants earn only about 90 per cent of what the IMF would have predicted on the basis of country comparisons.

The study notes that countries formerly under British colonial rule also employ larger numbers of government civil servants in administration than other countries. But is suggests that part of the explanation may be that Britain classifies administrative jobs those that other countries would count as specialized.

Government employment and pay: some international comparisons, by Peter Heller and Alan Tait (IMF, Washington, October 1983).

Police chief agrees to security talks

From Our Correspondent
Belfast

The Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary has abandoned his longstanding refusal to discuss security with Northern Ireland politicians which had produced repeated demands at Westminster and Stormont for his resignation.

Sir John Hermon, who met Official Unionists, on Tuesday, ostensibly at the behest of the Northern Ireland police authority some of whose members were also present, is to meet Democratic Unionists and Alliance Party members over the next month.

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, is understood to have persuaded Sir John to meet local elected representatives.

The clamour for him to resign reached a peak last month after several terrorist attacks.

The device of Sir John meeting the Stormont party deputations, separately, under the aegis of the employers, the police authority, is being seen as a face-saver for the chief constable.

Sir John and the police authority had no comment yesterday.

Three senior Official Unionists, the party's parliamentary leader Mr James Molyneaux and fellow MPs Mr Kenneth Maginnis and the Rev Martin Smyth, took part in the first meeting.

Mr Smyth said that they discussed police manpower, overtime and particularly border security. They told the chief constable that the army should handle border security.

"If the Army was deployed purposefully in sealing and dominating that frontier, it would be easier for the RUC to get on with their law enforcement work behind it."

On the subject of his party's forthcoming meeting with Sir John, the Democratic Unionist Leader, the Rev Ian Paisley, said that their objective was "a whole new policy whhich is going to win the war because the policy we have had before has not won the war."

MP's claim of cover-up at Sellafield 'nonsense'

By Ronald Faux

British Nuclear Fuels yesterday accused Mr Brian Sedgemore, Labour MP for Hackney South of making irresponsible claims about a "cover up" on compensation payments for former employees at the Sellafield reprocessing plant in Cumbria.

Mr Sedgemore had been told by the Department of the Environment that since 1971 when British Nuclear Fuels was formed, seven compensation payments had been made to the dependents of employees who had died after working at the plant. The biggest payment was £60,000.

In a statement yesterday the company said any suggestion that these payments were "new admissions" was nonsense. "All this information was given by the company in a series of press statements dating back to the first settlement in 1977."

Additional ministerial statements were made in Parliament in 1980 and 1983 when the most recent compensation payment was made on December 22, the company said.

The company said it had paid a total of about £200,000 in compensation to the dependents of employees who died after working at Sellafield and he contrasted this with the £15m paid out in one year in compensation by the National Coal Board.

A recent study by the company of 11,500 people employed at Sellafield now or who had worked there showed that the incidence of cancer among workers was lower than the national average. The company pointed out that this was despite the fact that these people were dealing with a hundred times more radioactivity than other members of the public.

Letters, page 11

Gas pay talks

No offer was made by British Gas to leaders of 42,000 gas manual workers yesterday in response to the union's demand for a "substantial" pay increase.

TUC paper contests 'sexual stereotyping'

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

A plan for changes in the way women are treated by the media is being drawn up by the TUC to counter alleged "sexual stereotyping" of women by the press, advertisers – and broadcasting organizations.

A draft pamphlet being circulated inside the union movement by Congress House calls for strict implementation of the National Union of Journalists code of conduct when reporting women's issues, more women in senior positions in the media and a code of practice covering advertisers' treatment of women.

The pamphlet, entitled *Images of Inequality*, is expected to be published in March in time for the TUC Women's Conference in Torquay when its recommendations will be debated. The pamphlet has been produced because of a call from last year's Women's Conference for a TUC investigation into sexual stereotyping.

The draft challenges the media's treatment of women as housewives or sex objects. It argues that as women account for 43 per cent of the workforce this kind of stereotyping works to their disadvantage in the labour market particularly at a time of high unemployment.

The popular tabloid newspapers come in for particular criticism: the pamphlet says they see women only as sex symbols in pin-ups, pop and film stars or "dull stay-at-home housewives" with no interest other than rearing children and looking after a family home.

The TUC, however, has steered clear of the sensitive area of the effect of pornography on women and does not attempt to analyse the impact of magazines and comics for teenage girls.

Of the 8.5 million women who work about 3.5 million belong to unions and the TUC believes there is a further million looking for work. The pamphlet says that women should be treated in the same way as men to the extent that they are members of the working population and it is scathing about the suggestion that women work only for pin money.

The pamphlet is due to go before the TUC women's committee in the next two weeks and will go to the "inner cabinet", the finance and general purposes committee, for final approval. Changes are likely to be made but there are not likely to be any additional recommendations.

Britons hold lead in chess contest

From Harry Golombek
Chess Correspondent
Hastings

The leading players in the Ace grandmaster tournament at White Rock Pavilion, Hastings, retained their positions after the seventh round yesterday.

Playing very securely, Martin achieved a comfortable draw against Mestel. Hebden and Speelman too were content with an early draw.

The game between Karlsson and Alburt was adjourned in what looked like a lost position for Alburt, in which case Karlsson will join the leaders.

An out-of-form Nigel Short mismanaged both the opening and middle game against Ivanov and resigned

Scores at the end of round 7 are: Hebden, Martin and Speelman 4½; Kudrin and Mestel 4; Ftacnik and Karlsson 3½ and 1 adjourned; Csom 3½; Ivanov 3; Alburt 2½ and 1 adjourned; Short and Suba 2½; Sax 2 and 1 postponed; Gurevich 1½ and 1 adjourned and 1 postponed.

Results in round 7: Karlsson adjourned against Alburt, English opening, 40 moves; Mestel ½ Martin ½: Caro-Kann defence, 30; Short 0 Ivanov 1, Sicilian defence, 41 Gurevich adjourned against Ftacnik, English pening 41; Csom ½ Suba ½, Queen's Pawn opening, 18; Hebden ½ Speelman ½, Sicilian defence, 22; Kudrin ½ Sax ½, Sicilian defence, 35.

Adjourned games, results round 6: Alburt 0 Kudrin 1; Suba ½ Gurevich ½.

Navy tackles shortage of officers

By Rodney Cowton
Defence Correspondent

Several senior Royal Navy ratings are to be offered temporary promotion as officers. Too few ratings are seeking commissions and there is a shortage of certain technical officers because of decisions to maintain some ships in service for a year or to longer than planned.

About a quarter of the 9,000 officers are commissioned after serving as ratings.

The shortfall is in jobs normally filled by chief petty officers and petty officers who have been commissioned on the special duties list.

The Ministry of defence said that the shortfall amounted to fewer than 1 per cent of over 1,900 special duties officers.

There is little difference in basic pay between a fleet chief petty officer, who receives about £11,000 a year, and a special duties officer who in his first year will receive between £11,700 and £12,700.

Review aims for all children to be educated in sciences

From Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, Exeter

In June, 95,000 boys and girls will leave school without having done any science for two years because they are allowed to drop the subject in the fourth form. And about a third of all school children studied no science at all before the age of 11.

The statistics, given to the Association for Science Education conference in Exeter yesterday, are part of the reason for the radical reassessment of science teaching now taking place at the association instigation throughout England, Wasles and Northern Ireland.

The secondary science curriculum review, which began in 1981 and will finish in 1986 at a cost of £2m, wants all children aged 11 to 16 to learn science. This reform has also been endorsed by the Royal Society, which wants all children to do the three science subjects of biology, chemistry and physics for a fifth of their lesson time.

Addressing a symposium at Exeter University, yesterday, Mr Mick Michell, deputy director of the review, said that 2,500 teachers were taking part in the review in 83 local education authorities in England and Wales. The were looking at how to reduce the content of O level and CSE science syllabuses and how to update them. In physics examination papers, for example, there were no questions on developments in physics since 1930.

According to figures from the Department of Education and Science only 14 per cent of boys and 9 per cent of girls study all three sciences. In most branches of science, excluding human biology, boys significatly outnumber girls.

The review is aiming to develop a new curriculum for the average child, in contrast to previous initiatives which started with the bright children and worked out from there, Mr Michell said.

The review is also concerned that whatever is developed should be acceptable to parents, employers and universities. Mr Michell said that he had been involved with the School's Council integrated science project and knew what it was like not to have acceptability.

The review has already made proposals to the department for the reform of teacher training for science and, in reply to questions, Mr Michell said that he was sure the examination board would change the syllabuses. "They swim with the tide and they can see there is a tide for science for all. If they do not swim with that tide they are going to find themselves out on a limb in 1988", he said.

"This is an increasingly scientific and technological society and yet the education system is still turning children on to the streets without any science background from the age of 13", he said.





High jinks: Holidaying children enjoying an acrobatics workshop at the National O[redacted] (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Doctors challenge minister o[redacted] deputizing service curbs

By Nicholas Timmins

Seven out of ten family doctors would be effectively barred from using night and weekend deputizing services if the Government limits their use Dr John Ball, chairman of the General Medical Services Committee, said yesterday.

Such a "draconian" restriction would make many existing services unviable, he said, and it was likely that 40 of the 50 services would be forced out of business.

In a letter to Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of Health, Dr Ball said that such a reduction was "as unacceptable as it is impracticable".

He challenged Mr Clarke to produce evidence to justify such a restriction.

Dr Ball said that the British Medical Associaion has been flooded with complaints from family doctors over the proposed restrictions.

Those would allow a single doctor, and those in partnerships of two, to use the services for a maximum of three nights a week and alternate weekends.

Larger partnerships and group practices would be expected to provide their own cover. Seventy per cent of doctors are in such practices.

About 45 per cent of Britain's 29,000 family doctors use such services regularly and half are occasional users, the BMA says.

Since the government's proposals were published before Christmas some doctors have argued that the restrictions are a resignation issue.

Others say that they should threaten to resign from out of hours cover, a move that would require permission from their family practitioner committees, while others have demanded a special conference to fight the proposals.

Dr Ball said that talk of resignation was "premature, at this point". But he said there was anger over the proposal and the way Mr Clarke had presented the draft circular without consultation.

At a time when the government was attempting to limit junior doctors' hours of work, and on call to 80 a week, the proposals would expect many family doctors to be on call [redacted] longer than that, he said.

If family doctors were [redacted] provide a good service duri[redacted] the day, it was only reasonab[redacted] that they should be able [redacted] recuperate and get a goo[redacted] night's rest, he said.

That was particularly true [redacted] inner-city areas, where the[redacted] were more elderly and single[redacted] handed doctors many of who[redacted] would not be able to cop[redacted] Patient care would suffer, h[redacted] said. Deputizing services migh[redacted] survive in the city centres, bu[redacted] in other areas they would not b[redacted] viable.

The proposals would affec[redacted] non-profit making coperative[redacted] deputizing services, as well as commercial ones.

But the BMA's council reaffirmed yesterday "strong support" for properly supervized services, and said they should be available to "all doctors who wish to subscribe to them".

If the proposals went ahead, Dr Ball said, "bootleg" services might emerge, beyond monitoring control.

[redacted]e takeover [redacted]neagles

[redacted]my Warner

[redacted] consortium of 19 mainly Scottish financial institutions organized by the Edinburgh-based British Linen Bank.

The company is trying to raise an extra £9.7m from shareholders to refurbish Piccadilly Hotel in London, where it recently bought a long leasehold interest.

The Gleneagles Hotel with its four golf courses, was built in 1924. There are private bathrooms and lobbies in each of the 220 bedrooms.

British Rail said last night that it had decided to sell its shareholding after being told about the fund-raising exercise.

Mr Peter Tyrie, Gleneagles Hotels managing director, described the bid as "far too cheap" and said that he was "disappointed by the disloyalty of British Rail".

Anglers left in peace by cruel sports league

By Hugh Clayton

The League Against Cruel Sports said yesterday that it opposed the shooting of grouse and pheasants as well as hunting with hounds. But the league, the largest anti-hunting group in Britain, said that it would not join the Hunt Saboteurs' Association in trying to win the abolition of fishing.

Mr Richard Course, executive director of the league, explained: "We are opposed to pheasant-shooting and grouse-shooting. But because of the activities of gamekeepers in killing off predatory birds, you have a massive explosion in the population of pigeons. We would have to say that people can shoot one type of bird but not another".

The league, which has strong links with the Labour Party, wants wildlife protection laws extended to include animals such as foxes and hares which are now hunted. It is also leading a campaign to persuade local authorities to ban hunting on their land.

Mr Course said that the league's policy on shooting was incomplete. It did not yet plan to campaign against any type of shooting sport, but it believed that far more poisonous lead was left in the countryside by shooters than by anglers.

He added that he did not know exactly why the league's elected leaders had decided not to oppose fishing.

"I am speculating. In my view our executive committee takes the line that fishing is nowhere as cruel as hunting with dogs. The whole thing about hunting is chasing an animal to exhaustion. They deliberately breed their dogs to be slower than their victims, but to have more stamina."

The British Field Sports Society said that the danger to angling must be obvious to all fishermen. "The opponents of country sports are clearly broadening their attack on all fronts". Leading article, page 11

Quality of research questioned

The quality of scientific research in the universities was questioned yesterday by Sir James Hamilton, former Permanent Secretary at the Department of Education and Science. The best was first class but some of it was distinctly mediocre, he said.

Sir James, who was delivering the presidential address to the Association for Science Education conference, said that the problem lay with university funding. The University Grants Committee should earmark grants specifically for research rather than limit student numbers in an attempt to maintain research spending.

"The process of earmarking is not without difficulty", he told the 2,000 teachers gathered at Exeter University. "There are administrative complexities and difficult judgments as between one university research group and another.

"There would, I am sure, be familiar cries of alarm under the banner of 'academic freedom' but, to my mind, the advantages of a much more effective distribution of limited funds for scientific research and the opportunity for a much more flexible approach to student numbers clearly outweigh the disadvantages."

Polytechnics should also be more involved in scientific research

TV venture in primary schools

Microelectronics will be introduced into primary schools through five BBC schools television programmes beginning next month. The programmes show children aged seven handling microelectronic circuits with confidence.

Describing the new venture yesterday, Professor Ted Wragg of Exeter University, and chairman of the Schools Broadcasting Council, explained how children of modest ability in Clyst, St Mary, Devon, could understand all the components in a circuit and what they did, as well as the concept involved and the practical applications.

The programmes, which show children in the school doing the course, come with a pack containing the essential components for a circuit.

Speaking to the Association for Science Education in Exeter, Professor Wragg described *Science Workshop*, another series of BBC programmes beginning in March, which is designed to enable teachers who have no experience of teaching science in primary schools. There was a desperate need for a curriculum leader/coordinator who would gain knowledge and ideas and then enthuse his colleagues. There should also be more science fairs and more displays of science in primary schools.

Roundsmen in retreat

Home-produced milk price war

By Hugh Clayton

The Norman invasion of the British dairy market will not destroy this country's system of doorstep deliveries. The 38,000 pints of long-life milk from Normandy farms which were cleared for sale on Tuesday will have little impact on sales of well over 10,000 million pints a year.

Their arrival is an important symbolic success for French farmers, enraged for years by the British denying their milk a foothold while importing heavy tonnages of New Zealand butter.

But the threat to British doorstep milk deliveries began before the European Court of Justice ruled that Britain's so-called health controls on milk were really a trade barrier in disguise.

Three years ago dairies quietly began to offer cut prices to supermarket chains which bought milk in bulk. Before then there were only two prices for standard bottled milk: the first was charged by milkmen after secret bargaining about profits between dairy companies and ministers; the other, charged in shops, was a penny higher.

Then Sir John Sainsbury, chairman of the supermarket chain, complained to farmers that dairies were operating a price ring. A month later the Office of Fair Trading said that there was to be no investigation of milk pricing. That was because prices had begun to fall among the supermarket groups.

Milkmen now charged 21p a pint for bottled standard milk, while grocers offer it for as little as 16p in cardboard. The threat to the milkman is therefore of British origin.

Consumption of milk has started to rise, thanks to price-cutting and higher school milk subsidies, after falling for years. But the milkman looks increasingly out of step.

Dairies have long complained that the profit from a milk round resides in the last few pints. If a few households cancel orders, the profit goes.

Despite the rise in consumption milk deliveries are being reduced. The number of milk rounds in England offering Sunday delivery has just dropped below half.

The milkman, who is only a memory in most countries, now seems to face a period of attrition in Britain. Milk imports can only increase pressure on the trade, which still employs 50,000 roundsmen and well over 20,000 dairy workers.

Education authorities join protest

By Lucy Hodges

A group of education authorities responsible for one-in-ten school children in England has called for talks with Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, over cash cuts.

Education officials from 10 authorities in Yorkshire and Humberside have told him that further cuts, on top of earlier reductions, are creating "unavoidable" strains.

In a statement thimed before his address to the North of England Education Conference, in Sheffield, they forecast that unless positive action is taken the nation will not have a skilled and educated workforce essential for economic recovery.

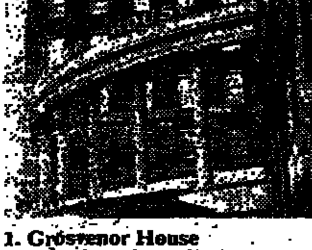
They say that to fund essential services they have had to increase the rates and to make savings by cutting maintenance, books, further education, and by increasing the price of school meals.

They blame the Government for reducing what it will pay for through the block grant and allowing pay awards to teachers to be larger than government targets.

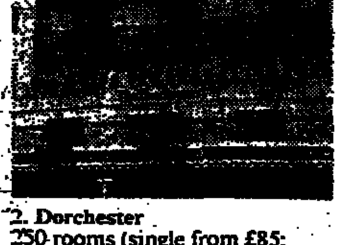
● Britain must be prepared for the perils of the technological revolution, Sir Frederick Dainton, chairman of the National Radiological Protection Board and a former university chancellor, said yesterday.

Sir Frederick, giving the opening presidential address to the North of England Education Conference, at Sheffield, said that one danger was that unscrupulous governments might use the electronic revolution to concentrate power in their own hands.

But the post-industrial revolution properly managed, could bring about the disappearance of boring and degrading jobs.



1. Grosvenor House
478 rooms (single from £85; double from £95)
£6m spent in past two years on new restaurants, air conditioning, health club and general upgrading; flagship of Trusthouse Forte.



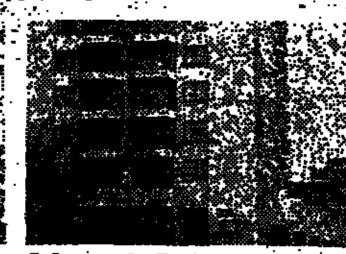
2. Dorchester
250 rooms (single from £85; double from £100)
£12m spent in 1979-81 on major refurbishment including all public areas; bought by Arab consortium in 1976, now owned by a Syrian.



3. London Hilton
503 rooms (single from £79; double from £96)
£5m renovation just started to be completed in weeks, including a new front lobby, lounge area and a new executive club.



4. Inter-Continental
493 rooms (single from £84; double from £95)
"Substantial" cost of refurbishment, including hairdryers in each room and video conference facility for business people.



5. Inn on the Park
228 rooms (single from £79; double from £112)
£4.5m spent in past two years in complete refurbishment and "change of concept" of bedrooms and public rooms.

Park Lane hotels given face lift

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Spring in London's Park Lane will see the finishing touches to a £30m facelift for the hotels which punctuate it from Marble Arch to Hyde Park Corner, in recognition of the need to make themselves attractive.

The London Hilton is the latest of the five main hotels in the strip to undergo the beauty treatment. The £5m being spent now means that the front lobby is closed while work is done to create a new lobby lounge to seat 120. The objective the hotel says, is to rejuvenate it, to improve the ambience and to give the guests value for money.

The four floors below the top, the twentyeighth floor, will become the Vista Executive Floors, a club for businessmen with specially attentive service, for which they will pay a little more than the normal rates – £120 for a single room, £145 for a double and £270 for a luxury suite.

A block away, the Dorchester carried out its main refurbishment between 1979 and 1981, improving all the public areas. It paid special attention to business people, put hairdryers on the walls of each room and opened a small library with equipment such as telex machines for private business meetings.

The Inter-Continental reckons it had hairdryers in the rooms a year before the Dorchester. It is proud of its new video facilities for conferences, completed last February.

Opposite is the Inn on the Park, which spent 18 months up to the spring of 1982 on redecorating the public rooms, the ballroom and restaurants.

Towards the top of Park Lane is the Grosvenor House, flagship of the Trusthouse Forte group, whose refurbishment in the past two years included opening three restaurants where previously there had been one. The hotel's health club has been improved; and again there is a floor for business facilities.

A1 murder victim left £301,967

By Stewart Tendler

Mrs Janice Weston, the London solicitor who was found battered to death in a ditch by the A1 in Cambridgeshire last September, left more than £300,000 in her will published yesterday. Mr Anthony Weston, her husband, is a main beneficiary.

Six year ago Mrs Weston, aged 36 when she died, was left more than £100,000 by Mr Heinz Isner, chairman of the Mettoy toy company and a client and friend. Police investigating the death of Mrs Weston have interviewed members of Mr Isner's family as background to their inquiries.

In the will, which was published in London, Mrs Weston, who lived in Addison Avenue, Holland Park, west London, left an estate valued at £414,990 gross and £301,967 net before tax paid. Some jewelry and furniture is to be disposed by trustees according to instructions left by Mrs Weston.

Her husband is given the use for life of other furniture. Mrs Weston's mother receives £10,000 and Mrs Linda Davies, the dead woman's sister, inherits a third of the residue while Mr Weston receives the income from the other two thirds of the residue for life. On his death the remainder will be harved equally by Mr Weston's two children and Mrs Weston's niece and two nephews.

Father charged

David Parr, aged 30, of Matlock, was remanded in custody until January 12 by magistrates in Matlock, Derbyshire, yesterday charged with murdering his six-week-old son, Michael.

Cocaine up fivefold in record year for drugs seizures

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Drug seizures by Britain's customs investigators rose yet again last year to a new record, with the discovery of heroin caches valued at £25m and cocaine valued at more than £12m in street sales.

The figures, issued yesterday, show that drugs seized by customs last year were valued at £62.9m compared with £50m in 1982. Heroin seizures rose by about 10 per cent and cocaine seizures increased fivefold.

Commenting on the seizures Mr Peter Cutting, head of the customs investigation branch, said the increase in cocaine discoveries was due to more investigations. Cocaine had been a fashionable drug but there were signs that its popularity was waning.

Mr Cutting said that the proportional changes in the amounts of different drugs seized year by year did not necessarily mean a change in the amount of traffic, but indicated greater or lesser efforts by customs in that particular area. There was no way of calculating the true state of the market in one drug.

For a long time cocaine smugglers had been using involved routes to move supplies fromsources in South America, and the same pattern was now beginning to show in heroin trafficking.

The main growth area remains the "golden crescent" area of Pakistan, Afghanistan

DRUG SEIZURES BY CUSTOMS

Drug	1983 (1982)	Street Value 1983
Cannabis	16,124 Kilos (16,[illegible])	£24.8m
Heroin	201 Kilos (18[illegible])	£25.3m
Cocaine	71 Kilos (12)	£12.4m
LSD	6,697 doses (17,[illegible])	£14,200
Amphetamine	12 Kilos (2.3)	£211,200

and Iran where up to 20,000 acres are available for opium poppy cultivation each year. The customs estimate that more than 88 per cent of the herion seen in Britain last year came from the region.

Mr Cutting said that Heathrow arpont remained the main point of entry for smugglers, but they were also trying to find other weak points. He said that the street price of heroin had remained stable and the strength of the dosages sold had increased. However he did not accept that that meant the market was flooded.

He said there was no evidence of a large-scale organization dominating the British market in the way he believed existed in the United States and he criticized some of the "panic" reporting on heroin use in the press.

Nonetheless, Mr Cutting said there was no reason for complacency. Since 1979 more drugs had become available on the streets.

Asked whether the customs service was still not devoting enough men to fighting the heroin [illegible] still concentrating [illegible] on cannabis. Mr [illegible] said that manpower [illegible] special drugs investigation [illegible] had been increased [illegible] in the teams handling [illegible] in inquiries since 1979.

There were [illegible] nearly 200 investigators [illegible] ed in drug work [illegible] investigation department [illegible], but Mr Cutting said [illegible] would not break down how many men were now involved in [illegible] gating what drugs [illegible] were always available.

Mr Cutting [illegible]: "I do not regard any [illegible] of the drug smuggling [illegible] as any less important than [illegible] ther part."

Early last [illegible] according to figures given [illegible] international conference on drugs in Paris, there were [illegible] investigators working on [illegible] cases out of a total of [illegible]

Yesterday [illegible] Cutting said there was evidence that some professional criminals were moving into the cannabis business, but no signs of organized [illegible] had been found.

EEC rules puzzle tied house tenants

By Derek Harris

European Commission guidelines intended to tell Britain's public house tenants how they can loosen ties with their breweries under new rules are so complicated that landlords and tenants are asking lawyers what they mean.

What is clear is that tenants will still be tied for most draught beer, but will be able to buy wines and spirits elsewhere if they can secure a better deal which a brewer will not match. Tenanted houses account for nearly half of Britain's 76,000 public houses.

Tenancy agreement have usually said wines and spirits should be bought from the brewer. The new rules, which become effective on January 1 could check the rate of price rises at the bar counter.

Tenants have often complained that they can buy wines and spirits more cheaply at supermarkets and brewers have replied that factors such as delivery cost need to be taken into account.

The guidelines say supplies must be "at prices and on conditions allowing normal sales to the consumer". In assessing differences in conditions of sale, the first judgment should be struck on the basis of prices.

If brewers are not offering particular wine and spirit brands at the time of an agreement, tenants can buy elsewhere.

Although the tie on draught beer is kept under the regulations, there is a provision which could allow more tenants to introduce other draught beers of which Guinness is the likeliest example. But not only must a tenant "indicate" sufficient demand from customers the criterion must also be that the introduction of another draught beer should not cause a drop in sales of tied beers.

Plea to help find murder shotgun

Detectives appealed yesterday to villagers to help to find a 12-bore shotgun and four cases from cartridges used in the murder of Rosalind Richards, a barmaid, aged 18, and Rodney Pellow, aged 32, who were found dead in a caravan in the village of Manaccan, Cornwall, two days after Christmas.

Homeless face 'a bleak year'

By Christopher Warman Property Correspondent

This year looks likely to be "the bleakest for several decades" for homeless people, Mr Neil McIntosh, director of Shelter, the national campaign for the homeless, says today in a new year message to supporters.

He says that nearly 170,000 households, the equivalent of a city the size of Bradford, may be forced to seek help from local councils in 1984 because they are homeless or threatened with homelessness.

"The huge housing cuts imposed by the Government, combined with the high level of council house sales, means that local authorities will have even greater difficulty in coping with the rising tide of homelessness", Mr McIntosh argues. Already fewer than half of those applying for help were accepted for rehousing, and the remainder were obliged to fend for themselves.

Mr McIntosh says the Goverment has defended the cuts on the ground of economic necessity. "But at the same time the Government increases tax relief to owner occupiers, proposes to give substantial hand-outs to better off tenants to help them buy, and continues a system in which the wealthiest householders receive nearly three times as much subsidy as standard rate taxpayers for the same size of mortgage".

Although hard-pressed local authorities might be tempted to turn more people away, Shelter calls on them to give housing a far greater priority so that "this major social scandal can be tackled properly".

Mr McIntosh says the the only answer is move resources. We must build more houses, improve more houses and rehouse more people into modern homes. We must also ensure that the greatest help goes to those in greatest need."

Show boat: A £400,000 cruiser sold at the International Boat Show, Earls Court, yesterday. (Photograph: John Voos.)

Golden day for selling big boats

By Kenneth Gosling

The largest vessel at this year's International Boat Show at Earls Court, London, had been sold to a British buyer yesterday – 24 hours before the event opened to the public.

The Hatteras 53ED, a twin-diesel motor cruiser with gold fittings, including a gold toothbrush, cost £400,000, plus £60,000 value-added tax.

The buyer's identity was not disclosed.

He is understood to have bought it for his own use and not for his engineering company.

Another sale, to another British buyer, was near completion yesterday afternoon.

Mr Paul Hadley, the sales manager, said: "If you were in a hurry, we could get you one in about three months. Sadly, these days it is not the stockbroker who comes for this type of boat.

"The type of man most likely to buy will be in the petrol business or something to do with computers. We also sell some nice big sailboats, 65-footers – we reckon to deal in between 320 to 340 big boats a year".

But it will be the minnows among the record number of 800 exhibits that most of the 250,000 expected visitors between now and January 15 will come to see. They include a GRP pram dinghy for under £150, or a sailboard for just under £100.

The organizers of this 30th show expect exhibitors to do good business, with a possible return to the boom years of sailing in the early 1970's.

Apart from boats, exhibits include a Wetbike; small radar systems; a rustproof folding bike, a wrist strap to cure travel sickness and inversion therapy boots.

These, a show official explained, are designed "to cure backache and loss of hair and to keep you young".

Show visitors will also be rejuvenated by the jazz bands and can-can dancers who will perform daily on the deck of the Mississippi sternwheeler in the poolside harbour.

The show is organized for the Ship and Boat Builders National Federation by National Boat Shows Ltd and the *Daily Express*.

Pub video company to wind down business

By Bill Johnson and Andrew Cornelius

Telejector, the company which only 10 months ago offered £8m to the Football League for the rights to show games in its national public house and club video network, is to seek no new business. The move will mean dismissing 140 of its staff and writing off more than £5m.

The group, a subsidiary of London and Liverpool Trust made no profits in the past six months, according to Mr Astley Whittall, who became LLT chairman seven weeks ago. The 2,000 video machines which have been installed will continue however to be serviced, the company says.

Telejecor surprised the BBC and the independent television companies by outbidding them in an attempt to acquire the rights to show selected football games on video. A month after the offer was made it was withdrawn.

The Football League said yesterday: "We treated their offer very seriously until they withdrew it fairly late in the day because they felt the league was taking too long to make up its mind".

Mr Whittall said that the chance of securing national advertising after the league deal was aborted was small and so the videos were supported by local advertising. The contracts between Telejector and its outlets are for five years.

The 140 sales staff are to be made redundant while 40 are to remain to service present contracts. The company will save about £250,000 a month operating costs but hopes to salvage the capital investment.

The machines are leased by publicans and club owners from Telejector through a leasing company. Video films and advertisements are provided by Telejector for screening on the machines.

London and Liverpool Trust has experienced a number of problems over the past six months with the resignation of its chairman, Mr Jeffrey Bonas, and a fall in profits for the first six months of the last financial year ending in September from £2.5m to £1m. By the end of last month the company's shares were worth less than a tenth of the 350p they stood at during a 1983 high.

No decision has been made about the future of Telejector but LLT is expected to concentrate on its other activities which is the marketing and leasing of photocopiers, computing and telecommunications equipment.

● Kodak is to enter the video market this year with an 8mm camera-recorder system and video tape for home and professional use (the Press Association reports).

TDK will manufacture the tapes in Japan, and Matsushita the 8mm hardware. Kodak will inspect the products to certify quality.

Cabinet dilemma in 1953

'Wets' stopped spending cuts

By Peter Hennessy and David Walker

In a remarkable parallel with the present day, Sir Winston Churchill's Conservative Government of 30 years ago carried out a wide-ranging secret review of social spending, and then considered, and discarded, many of the same options for cuts as those now confronting Mrs Thatcher's administration.

The newly released Cabinet records show that in 1953 Mr R. A. Butler, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, ordered a survey of possible cuts in health, education and social security spending. Ministers were faced with a list that would produce the savings but would also provoke "serious political opposition".

Among the 1953 options apparently still on the agenda were the charging of fees for educational courses, cutting student grants, reducing housing subsidies, failing to keep pensions in line with inflation and trimming welfare benefits.

But in Churchill's Cabinet the "wets" of the day, including Mr Butler, held sway and could rely on Churchill's own paternalist views on social spending. The hardliners, who included Mr Peter (later Lord) Thorneycroft, President of the Board of Trade, were in a distinct minority.

The 1953 records show that the Cabinet was beset by fears of a recession in the United States that would drag world trade down and force the British Government to cut its spending. On the one hand Cabinet committees worked to produce a "reserve list" of public works needed to avoid extensive unemployment if the recession hit Britain; on the other Mr Butler ordered his detailed review of spending in all departments, including defence.

R. A. Butler: Detailed review ordered

food subsidies and other social outlays.

He found the growing real cost of the National Health Service worrying: since 1948-49 it had doubled in cash terms although prices had risen by only 25 per cent. But his Cabinet colleagues did not like the idea of saving money by putting up prescription charges (to one shilling) and opted instead for an inquiry.

A list of possible cuts in education spending included raising the school starting age from five to six and lowering the leaving age from 15 to 14. But the Minister for Education, Miss Florence Horsbrugh, fought back in memoranda. On charging fees for schooling she wrote: "It would seem particularly anomalous that the Government should first increase children's allowances and then take some part of them back by forcing parents to pay for compulsory schooling".

An attempt was made to reverse the policy of encouraging people to move out of London and the big cities to the new towns that were in the middle of construction. But Mr Harold Macmillan, Minister of Housing and Local Government, was determined to reach his target of 300,000 houses built a year, and housing subsidies remained in place.

The minutes show there was lengthy discussion of a policy that would find no favour nowadays. In 1953 unemployment was at historically low levels, and ministers favoured one way of keeping more people at work for longer while simultaneously reducing the cost of pensions: raising the retirement age from 65 to 70.

In retrospect the Treasury's forward projections of public spending from 1953 to 1963 look hopelessly underestimated; but projections also underestimated the growth in the economy, which ensured that the darkest of Treasury fears for government spending and income never came to pass.

Police chauffeur inquiry

The Chief Constable of the West Midlands was asked yesterday to investigate the cost of providing him and seven other officers with chauffeur-driven cars.

Sir Philip Knights, his deputy chief constable and six assistant chief constables have chauffeur-driven cars for official functions and to take them to and from home to their offices.

Sir Philip has his own car which, for security reasons, is driven by a police officer, but the others take their civilian chauffeurs and vehicles from a force pool of 30 cars.

At yesterday's meeting of the West Midlands police committee, Mr Ted Bentley a Labour member, demanded to know how much this cost.

He said other metropolitan counties provided chauffeur-driven cars for their chief constables, but paid a car allowance to other senior officers.

"I do not feel that the chief constable can justify the fact that all our assistant chief constables are picked up from home and brought to the office." He accepted that Sir Philip should have a chauffeur, but not the other senior officers.

Sir Philip told the committee he would investigate the cost and report back.

Halt NUJ meeting call

Four former members of the national executive of the National Union of Journalists called yesterday for the cancellation of the union's planned special delegate meeting on January 21 over the Dimbleby Newspapers issue.

On February 1, the House of Lords will be hearing an appeal against a High Court order that the union should call off industrial action against Dimbleby Newspapers, and the four felt it would be legally dangerous to go ahead with the special meeting.

Mr Jim French, Mr Mark Kahn, Mr Terence Kelly and Mr Howard Whitten, say that to hold the meeting a few days before the issue is to be heard by the highest appeal court in the land would be contempt.

"Hundreds of members were angered when our leaders first put the union's funds at risk, and they do not want it to happen again", they said.

"They were alarmed when the executive first decided to defy the High Court injunction. And now it would be absurd for a journalists' union to flout the sub judice principle."

An NUJ spokesman said that a special meeting of the union's executive had been called for next week when the position would be considered further.

The Selby coalfield

Miners spruce up and cut costs

From Ronald Faux, Selby

Uncertainty at many traditional pits in the coalfields of Yorkshire and the North-east has shifted the focus for the future of mining on the superpits of the North and the development of such huge reserves as the Selby field in East Yorkshire.

With Mr Arthur Scargill's "hit list" of pits earmarked for closure still regarded as fiction by the National Coal Board, any miners see the manpower losses in recent years and the performance expected fromthe new pits as amounting to the same thing.

In Selby, which lies on a lump of coal the size of the Isle of Wight, the transformation of the miner has been most marked, and suspicions that rural peace would be shattered by an invasion of grimy and aggressive individuals have largely faded.

The image of the modern miner in the Selby area is altogether more spruce and socially acceptable: a top earner in the industrial wages league; more often a technician than mere muscle power for a pick.

A research paper from York University, commenting on the miner's new image and the fresh corporate look for coal, said: "It seems that in Selby the hard-living miner of the past will be replaced by an affluent contemporary more in tune with Beethoven and bridge than brass bands and booze."

Even so, the implications for the National Union of Mineworkers of what is expected from the new coalfields are ominous in terms of lost jobs to the industry overall. The estimates are that coal will be produced at a profit of about £17 a ton. Wages will account for 20 per cent of production costs, against 50 per cent on average for the rest of the industry.

Helped by high technology and top-quality deposits, the 4,000 Selby miners will achieve the outcome from 20,000 miners working in other areas, and local power stations could ensure a market for a large part of production. The complex of site pits in the field would generate £750,000 a week in wages when in full production.

So much for the promise. What, so far, has been the reality? About 1,500 jobs in the coalfield are filled and 500 miners have settled with their families in the towns and villages that will service the new mines at Stillingfleet, Whistow, Riccall, North Selby and Whitemoor.

Mrs Barbara Crooks, wife of a miner and mother of two sons all working in the Selby fields, lives in a smart, detached house on a new private development near Sherburn-in-Elmet.

She said: "I would prefer it if they worked at a different sort of job, but what is there, these days? People have been very friendly and could not have been more welcoming, though."



Mr Scargill: "Hit list" of pits

She said that some families had moved but had gone back to the old mining areas because they felt they had left their roots behind.

The problems with flooding at Whistow mine, where her two sons work underground, are a reminder that even with a modern pit the old dangers remain.

Visitors were constantly asking the way to the mine at Stillingfleet. They drove straight past it without realizing that the oblong towers of mellow-coloured brickwork marked a mine.

A publican said: "There are none of the conventional signs of a colliery. They tell me that people here will not see a single lump of coal on the surface and that there will be no slag heaps. The miners come in here and they are friendly, ordinary folk. I have not seen a single mucky face", he said.

Mr Kenneth Capstick, aged 42, bought a bungalow in Sherburn when he moved to the Selby field last February. He is the Stillingfleet delegate for the NUM and felt the offer of assistance to buy a house from the coal board was difficult to refuse. The board helped towards the mortgage payments.

Even so, there had been difficulties, particularly for the wives. "The man goes out for eight or nine hours at a stretch; in Wakefield the wife had everything she wanted on the doorstep: places to go, friends, somewhere to work, regular public transport.

"But some of the villages around here are like Wakefield on a wet Sunday. There is nothing to do, so the wife gets depressed. It has broken up some marriages and some husbands have decided to move their families back and commute.

"That is no criticism of the locals in Sherburn – they have been tremendously welcoming."

There seems little chance that the old, strong community sense can be restored in Selby.

£30m scheme to strengthen Severn Bridge

From Tim Jones Cardiff

The Government is expected later this month to approve the spending of more than £30m to strengthen the Severn Bridge. The work, which could take more than two years, comes after widespread concern over safety and the economic consequences closure.

Only one lane is open in each direction on the bridge, which one independent report said could collapse in exceptional circumstances.

The strengthening work is likely to involve building new support legs in the towers; replacing the steel ropes from which the bridge is suspended and renewing the surface of the bridge, possibly with specially-coated plywood panels.

The announcement will not curb growing demands for an immediate feasibility study into a second crossing. The Wales CBI says that traffic trends make a new crossing essential even if the present bridge was operating at full capacity.

Local authority representatives and industrialists from South Wales and the West County are to meet Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, in London to press their case.

Next Monday, a second conference of local authorities from both sides of the Severn is to be held in Gwent.

Engineer loses fight against new breath-test

From Our Correspondent Manchester

A company director who said the new computer breath-test machine could give false readings lost his fight to keep his driving licence yesterday.

The Lion Intoximeter 3000 showed that Mr Eric Pyatt had consumed the equivalent of eight or nine pints of beer. Manchester city magistrates were told and they convicted him of driving with excess alcohol in his blood.

He was fined £100, banned from driving for 12 months and ordered to pay £200 costs.

Mr Pyatt, aged 51, of Ansleigh Avenue, Crumpsall, Manchester, said he was astounded when told the machine indicated more than twice the legal limit.

He said he had had five half pints of lager, a glass of wine and a glass of port.

But during the two-day hearing, Dr Paul Williams, who was called as an expert witness, said the machine had failsafe devices and any errors were in favour of the motorist.

Of the machine which tested Mr Pyatt, he said: "There was nothing in its print-out to suggest it was not working properly."

Mr Eric Shannon, a barrister for Mr Pyatt, said his client was employed as a marine engineer and drove between 35,000 and 40,000 miles a year.

نقلا من الأصل

Salvadoreans drag feet on US demands for death squads crackdown

San Salvador (NYT) – The Salvadorean armed forces have announced military changes without meeting US requests to exile officers suspected of taking part in death squad activities.

Diplomats and Salvadorean politicians say the Government is having difficulty complying with the demand to reduce violence and punish offenders delivered by Vice-President George Bush when he visited El Salvador early in December. Suspects are apparently refusing to leave the country.

State Department officials indicated last week that they felt the Salvadoreans had made progress in complying with the demands. They offered as evidence the arrest of an officer implicated in the death of two American labour advisers, a decrease in political killings and the removal of the intelligence directors of two security forces.

But diplomats and military officers here are more sceptical. It is not unusual for death squad activity to drop in the holiday season, and diplomats have said that the removal of the intelligence directors was only cosmetic since they are still in the country and the intelligence sections are still staffed by people involved in killings.

Mr Bush wanted the exiling of more than 25 military officers and civilians and an end to arrests by armed civilians. Neither of these demands had been met.

Why the military delayed action against the death squad suspects is unclear. Some Salvadorean politicians suggested that the Government and military might be trying to see if the Reagan Administration would be satisfied with less.

American Embassy officials declined to comment, but one diplomat said that the Salvadoreans could lose the war by refusing to do anything about the US demands.

The feeling among many politicians here is that the Reagan Administration needs El Salvador as much as El Salvador needs American aid, and that the United States will not abandon the country as long as it is threatened by a Marxist takeover.

● **Losses admitted:** The Salvadorean Army has admitted that guerrillas killed more than 100 soldiers in a recent surprise attack. Military sources said it was the highest toll suffered by the Army in a single attack in four years of civil war.

The attack took place last Thursday against a brigade headquarters in Chalatenango.

● **HAVANA:** M Georges Marchais, the French Communist Party leader and President Fidel Castro of Cuba strongly attacked US policy in Central America in a joint communiqué issued on Tuesday at the end of a two-week visit to Cuba by M Marchais (AFP reports).

Military muzzled in Aquino inquiry

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Philipines military authorities were yesterday ordered to stop their investigations into the murder of the opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, after civilian commission of inquiry complained that were intimidating witnesses.

The order from the Defence Minister, Mr Juan Ponce Enrile, came a day after the chairman of the commission Mrs Corazón Agarava, had written to Mr Enrile. Despite a Presidential order transferring all powers to the five-man commission, separate inquiries were being conducted.

Mr Enrile's order, relayed to the Armed Forces' Chief of Staff General Fabian Ver, directed that if the military wished to verify any fact or the credence of a witness, it should be done with the "authority, control and supervision of the board".

When he testified before the board last month, Mr Enrile promised that the military would not retaliate if someone contradicted its version

President v[illegible]

Koivisto chasti[illegible] lemmings

From Olli Kivinen, Helsinki

The relations between President Mauno Koivisto of Finland and the country's press deteriorated further this week when he compared journalists to a flock of lemmings and tried to limit their right to question and criticize.

In an interview on Tuesday with the country's oldest newspaper, *Abo Underrattelser*, which is celebrating its 160th anniversary, President Koivisto made a number of observations which brought a strong reaction from journalists.

Among other things, he seemed to deny foreigners the right to participate in the country's internal debate. He mentioned Mr Jahn-Otto Johansen, the well-known editor of the Norwegian daily *Dagbladet* and a respected specialist on Finnish affairs. Mr Johansen is an outsider and "cannot interfere in our internal debate the way he does", President Koivisto said.

This statement led to a howl of protest in Finland and other Nordic countries. Mr Johansen had earlier criticized the President for making unclear statements.

Finland's independent and critical press has often joined in asking for more clarity and this has obviously irritated the President. In the same interview, he owed never to explain himself. "From now on, I will see to it that nobody tries to explain the ways I think. Not even myself."

President Koivisto has always preferred long, philosophical discussions, which [illegible] journalists and other lis[illegible] He has also become [illegible] for keeping a low profil[illegible] country where the Pres[illegible] constitutional position [illegible] strong.

He was elected with [illegible] majority two years ago a[illegible] popularity with the vote[illegible] continued to grow. But h[illegible] issued a number of state[illegible] which have led to uncer[illegible] in the last six months.

The most celebrated [illegible] "confidential" letter t[illegible] leading editors, dema[illegible] descretion in the reporti[illegible] the country's foreign p[illegible] The letter was leake[illegible] Swedish newspapers an[illegible] President received a bad p[illegible]

In Tuesday's inter[illegible] President Koivisto reveals [illegible] his dissatisfaction is [illegible] partly on the persistent [illegible] mands for clearer explana[illegible] of two votes in the U[illegible] Nations General Assem[illegible] autumn session.

Many papers questi[illegible] why Finland condemned [illegible] invasion of Grenada [illegible] abstained on Afghanis[illegible]

There was minderstandi[illegible] between the Foreign Office [illegible] the President, and the cla[illegible] cations were far from satis[illegible] tory for many independ[illegible] newspapers. The result [illegible] that Finnish foreign pol[illegible] received much nagative p[illegible] licity at a time when [illegible] country tried to ignore [illegible] ramifications of the deterior[illegible] ing international situation.

[illegible]ccused of muddled thinking.

Bitter peach harvest in Calabria

From Our Own Correspondent Rome

EEC butter mountains, wine lakes, olive oil wells – and now it's the great peach scandal down on the farm in Calabria, the toe of Italy.

Allegations put forward in the Calabrian regional council speak of huge subsidies fraudulently from the European Community for the support of peach growing in the area. The accusers maintain that the Community payments amount to about £8m a year – yet the region has virtually no peach harvest at all.

The attack does not come from the Communist opposition (though they are naturally delighted by it) but from two dissidents from the Christian Democratic Party, which controls the Council.

The embarrassed administration has challenged the two dissidents to show evidence of any fraud and they in turn are demanding that council records be turned over to the judiciary for investigation.

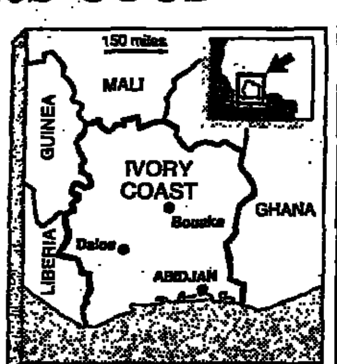
Signor Sergio Scarpino and Signor Lucio Mirabelli claim that state agencies have been collecting peach harvests and destroying them artificially to maintain prices in Reggio di Calabria and the province of Catanzaro.

And they say Community subsidies have been claimed for 1.5 million kilos of peaches in Calabria where none are produced and for 2 million kilos in Catanzaro where only half that number are grown.

Energy crisis in Abidjan

Showcase Coast loses its cool

From Clifford May
New York Times
Abidjan, Ivory Coast



West Africa's only ice skating rink has melted.

In the tall, modern office buildings of central Abidjan, executives gaze out of windows that do not open through eyes blurred with perspiration. Every evening, well-heeled Europeans and Ivorians dine by candlelight in elegant restaurants, then go home and read by candlelight as well.

About two weeks ago, the Ivory Coast began to run out of power. Hydroelectricity is the source of 92 per cent of the country's energy. Lack of sufficient rain has caused the water level in the dams to sink steadily, so there is no longer enough to run many of the turbines.

At first, the blackouts were brief – two or three hours a day in one neighbourhood or another – and nobody worried much about it. But in recent days, the power cuts have grown longer and more frequent. Some neighbourhoods are without electricity for up to 17 hours a day, with no power whatever in daylight hours. Industrial capacity has been reduced by an estimated 35 per cent. Tons of food have spoiled. Whole neighbourhoods have had to do without water when the electricity for the pumps was cut.

Some businessmen have stopped going to their offices, afraid of getting stuck in the elevators or unwilling to spend the day in a room that can become as hot and damp as a steambath.

"For years, I had gone from my air-conditioned villa to my air-conditioned car to my air-conditioned office", one businessman said. "I never realized just how hot it really is here."

Power shortages are by no means a novelty in the region. In Accra, the capital of neighbouring Ghana, electricity is now supplied only on alternate days. In Lagos, the capital of Nigeria, blackouts are an accepted part of life and every factory, business and home that can afford it has a diesel generator ready to switch on when the lights go out.

But the Ivory Coast is not Ghana or Nigeria. This country has long been known as the showcase of Africa, a modern nation where bureaucrats think ahead and where work gets done. For reasons that no one quite understands, this time the rule has been broken and that appears to be causing a crisis of confidence as well.

Water levels in a dam do not just drop overnight, and the present shortage cannot have come as a surprise.

President Félix Houphouet-Boigny, who since independence 23 years ago has run the Ivory Coast with unusual efficiency and dynamism, has yet to acknowledge publicly that there is a problem or to assure the population that he is handling it.

The director of the electricity authority, Konan Lambert, has admitted that the energy shortage is catastrophic, but he explained the lack of planning only by saying: "We had chosen the optimistic thesis."

One Ivorian businessman commented: "I guess that means they were hoping for a monsoon during the dry season."

Failing that, the likely solution is for the country to buy turbines that run on fossil fuels. According to businessmen and diplomats, there are four such General Electric turbines now sitting on flatcars in Schenectady, New York state. They could be delivered within three weeks

According to these same sources, however, the French Government, which retains a strong influence in this former French colony, is pressing the Ivorian Government to buy French tunbines, even if that meant waiting longer for them.

Meanwhile, for many hours each day, the computer screens go dark, the electric typewriters stop humming, refrigerators grow warm, ovens grow cool and dentists hang up their drills.

Danish coalition win may still mean stalemate

From Christopher Follett, Copenhagen

The Danish general election next Tuesday expected to strengthen the position of the right wing minority Government of Mr Poul Schluter, the country's first Conservative Prime Minister since 1901.

Of more importance is whether or not the poll, the seventh general election in 13 years, will end with the 10-year political deadlock and provide the 16-month-old Government with the parliamentary majority needed for passing the necessary tough economic legislation.

The latest opinion poll, conducted for the leading daily *Jyllands Posten*, follows other surveys in predicting a doubling of the Conservative vote to 29 per cent at the cost of Mr Schluter's three coalition partners, the Venstre Liberals, the Centre Democrats and the Christian People's Party.

The small key Radical Liberal Party, which backs the Conservative-led Government's economic policies, could, however, do poorly. This would mean that the new 179-seat Folketing (parliament) might well see the present Government increase its number of seats from 66 to about 80, while paradoxically still lacking majority support, causing a stalemate and continuing poitical instability.

The election was called when Mr Schluter's coalition failed to gain parliamentary support for its 1984 Finance Bill, after the opposition Social Democrats, traditionally the biggest political party, voted against it.

Mr Schluter's record since taking office in 1982 after eight years of Social Democratic rule has been impressive in relation to the economy, the main issue in the election. Inflation has been halved, interest rates and the balance of payments deficit have tumbled, the Danish *krone* has been stabilized and a new optimism is in the air about economic revival.

Nine parties hold seats in the outgoing Parliament and 13 are contesting the election.

Youth revolt challenges Tunisian success

From Godfrey Morrison, Rabat

Despite the declaration of a state of emergency, shooting was heard from the university area and the northern suburbs of Tunis yesterday, while comparative calm returned to the centre of the capital, the scene on Tuesday of violent riots.

By declaring an emergency President Habib Bourguiba, who is 80, has handed responsibility for law and order to the army, and tanks were stationed yesterday at strategic points in the city.

The unrest, which has so far left at least 15 people dead, began in southern Tunisia last week and has shattered the calm of a country with one of the most enviable records in Africa for political stability and economic progress.

As so often in Africa, the riots followed a rise in the price of the country's staple food – in this case, a doubling of the cost of a loaf of bread.

Tuesday's violence in Tunis appears to have been more serious than official announcements have suggested, with informed sources and eye-witnesses telling *The Times* by telephone that the rioters overturned and set fire to hundreds of vehicles, made indiscriminate attacks on shops and offices and broke into private homes. Much looting took place.

The official news agency yesterday carried a terse announcement from the city's transport company announcing that there would be "disturbances" to the mormal timetable because of "serious damage to more than 200 buses" in Tuesday's violence.

An experienced political observer told *The Time* that the vast majority of the rioters were young, mainly in the 17-to-early-20s age group. So far there had been no evidence of involvement by Muslim fundamentalists, always a turbulent factor in Tunisia.

The trade union leadership, the most powerful organized force in politics apart from President Bourguiba's ruling Destourian Socialist Party, has appealed to its members for calm.

Nor had there been any evidence of anti-Western feeling in the rioters' actions. The whole affair appeared more like an explosion of anger and frustration against the authorities by unemployed youths, the observer said.

The Government also appeared to see it that way. One of its first actions was to close the university and all schools.

Yesterday, perhaps to discourage them from moving about the city and regrouping for further violence, it was announced that student bus passes were invalid as long as academic institutions remained closed.

The last serious unrest in Tunisia was in 1980 in Gafsa, also in the south, when insurgents whom the Government said were inspired by Libya attacked a police station.

• Apart from minor incidents involving students and Muslim fundamentalists, there had been no serious violence in the capital since January, 1978, when a general strike, again partly caused by price rises, degenerated into violence in which estimates of casualities vary from about 50 to more than 100 dead.

Informed sources in Tunis said it was impossible to estimate the number of killed and wounded in the present troubles because they had been so widespread, apart from the south, and Tunis they have affected places such as Kef.

So far as was known, the disturbances had not so far affected Bizerta or other towns in the north, the sources said.

The present violence will put a question mark over Tunisia's hesitant progress towards democracy. It comes less than two months after President Bourguiba announced the legalization of two opposition parties, and his intention to legislate for the introduction of pluralism in both politics and the trade unions.

For more than a quarter of a century his Destourian Socialist Party has enjoyed a virtual monopoly of political power. It is known that the moves towards democracy, vigorously promoted by the Prime Minister, Mr Muhammad M'Zali, President Bourguiba's successor-designate, and by Wassila, the President's influential wife, were equally vigorously resisted by some hardliners in the political establishment.

That the young and often well-educated unemployed can cause such mayhem in a country as economically successful and well-managed as Tunisia – it has enjoyed almost uninterrupted economic growth since independence – underlines the daunting task faced by Africa's leaders in a recession.

Urged by the International Monetary Fund, economists and bankers to reduce budget deficits by cutting government expenditure, including subsidies on basic commodities, African governments are forced to slow down economic machines which, even in good times, cannot provide enough jobs to keep pace with high birth rates.

Even in prosperous countries such as Tunisia, social security services are rudimentary, and when the unemployed go on the streets it is not to form orderly dole queues, but to try to overthrow the Government.

Britons safe

Thomson Holidays, which has 600 clients on holiday in Tunisia, said yesterday that they had been advised to stay in their hotels, although few were aware of any trouble. The main resorts of Hammamet and Monastir are well away from the trouble spots. No excursions are being run from the hotels at present.

The manager of the Sahara Beach Hotel, near Monastir, said: "We have over 700 guests, 300 of them British. They are all very happy, the temperature is 75-80F and there are no problems."



Order restored: An army tank stationed in the centre of Tunis yesterday

Scores die as Israeli planes hit Shia bases in Bekaa

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

Israeli jets bombed and strafed towns in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley for an hour yesterday, leaving scores of people dead.

At least 16 fighters were involved in the attack over Syrian-controlled territory, aimed at bases used by pro-Iranian Shia Muslim militias and Iranian Revolutionary Guards. On Tuesday Israeli Kfir jets struck at Palestinian guerilla encampments in Lebanon's central mountains.

Reports from the area indicated that among the sites hit yesterday on the outskirts of Baalbeck and in villages nearby, were the Wavell Palestinian Refugee Camp, a police barracks, a restaurant and a filling station.

Beirut radio put the death toll at nearly 100, with at least 400 injured. No breakdown was available on civilian and military casualties. The Israeli Military Command in Tel Aviv said its pilots scored accurate hits on two guerilla bases and returned safely.

Israel blames the shia militias in the Bekaa – the Islamic Amal movement and Hezbollah – for the November bomb attack on its military headquarters in the southern Lebanese port city of Tyre.

Meanwhile in Beirut the Saudi mediator Mr Rafik Hariri, arrived as the Government of President Amin Gemayel prepared to announce a security agreement aimed at ending civil war in Lebanon.

Mr Chaffic Wazzan, the Prime Minister, said Lebanese leaders had agreed to the plan and that "only very few details remain to be crystallized".

Under the plan, developed with Mr Hariri's assistance, buffer zones will be created along the front lines of last September's battle areas. Foreign truce observers may be called in if needed.

Government security forces will also take over positions, particularly along strategic highways, controlled by sectarian militias.

In the Bekaa Syrian troops and civil defence volunteers worked through the day pulling victims from the rubble of buildings. Beirut Radio broadcast frequent appeals for blood donors.

The air raids – in the wake of increased attacks on Israeli patrols in southern Lebanon – drew stinging criticism from Lebanon's Muslim leaders and threats of increased guerrilla action against Israel.

Jumbos in near-miss at 37,000 ft

From Trevor Fishlock
New York

The United States Federal Aviation Administration is investigating a near-miss involving two Pan American Jumbo jets with a combined total of more than 500 people on board.

The aircraft – one from London, the other fro New York – came within about 600ft of each other over the Bahamas on New Year's Day, according to an FAA spokesman in Atlanta yesterday.

The pilot of a DC10, carrying 340 people on a charter flight from New York to St Martin in the Virgin Islands turned away sharply when he saw a Boeing 747 bound from London to Miami with 166 people.

The aircraft were at 37,000ft, about 185 miles east of Miami. The incident happened at 4.30 in the afternoon.

***The Washington Post* reported yesterday that the airliners had come with 50ft of each other, but the FAA said reports indicated the distance was 600ft.**

The FAA and the National Transportation Safety Board want to find out why they were at the same altitude on intercepting courses.

The area manager of the Miami air route traffic control centre, Mr James Reilly, said the airliners should not have been assigned the same altitude, and there had been a lack of coordination. "Somewhere along the line, we goofed," he said.

The airliners were in different but adjacent sectors under the control of the Miami air traffic centre.



Together again: Navy Lieutenant Robert Goodman reunited yesterday with his family after flying home with the Rev Jesse Jackson, who negotiated his release from Syria

Bose film shown despite Delhi objections

By Rupert Morris

The screening of a controversial Granada television documentary on the Indian National Army and its leader, Subhas Chandra Bose, went ahead last night, despite objections from the Indian Government.

Sir Denis Forman, chairman of Granada, wrote to Mr P. V. Narasimha Rao, India's Foreign Minister, to say his objections were based largely on misconceptions about the content of the film and several misquotations taken from Indian newspapers.

The role of Bose and the Indian National Army, which accepted aid from Axis powers in the Second World War and tried to join forces with the Japanese, is still a highly sensitive subject in India. Several leading politicians had demanded that the Government bar Granada from India if the film were shown.

Mr David Boulton, the producer, said last night he was confident the Indian Government would be satisfied, when it saw the film, that every effort had been made to treat the subject fairly.

Any truthful account would upset some Indiand, as there was such a deep division of opinion about Bose and his place in Indian history, he said.

Mr Boulton said none of the Indian ministers who had complained had seen the film

Britain cool to Falkland proposal

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Britain reacted coolly yesterday to the Argentine proposal for a transfer of sovereignty over the Falkland Islands based on a special statute to guarantee the interests of the islanders.

The Argentine proposal, announced in Buenos Aires on Tuesday, was the first official policy statement on the Falklands by the new Government of President Raúl Alfonsín.

In an official statement the Foreign Office in London said it had not yet seen the text of the Argentine Foreign Ministry's statement, but when received it would be studied carefully.

"It appears that the statement is based on the premise that the outcome of any negotiations on the Falkland Islands must be the transfer of sovereignty to Argentina, regardless of the wishes of the islanders.

"British ministers have made clear that they stand by their commitent to the islanders and are not entering into negotiaons about sovereignty," the Foreign Office said.

In the British Government's view, the way ahead for Anglo-Argentine relations should be to start in practical areas in which agreement should be possible. These could include the normalization of trade and economic relations, repatriation of the Argentine dead, and visits by next of kin.

● **Buenos Aires:** The Argentine proposal came in a message released by the Argentine Foreign Ministry to commemorate Britain's seizure of the Falklands on January 3, 1833. The government has sent a similar message to Senor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN Secretary-General (our Correspondent writes).

The statement also announced Argentina would agree to a "special statute of guarantees and safeguards" for the approximately 1,800 Falkland Islanders.

Compromise solution, page 10

Church meets state

Glemp seeks way to free top prisoners

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Cardinal Jozef Glemp, the Polish Primate, will this week meet General Wojciech Jaruzelski and make a fresh attempt to find a formula to secure the release of Poland's 11 most controversial political prisoners, church sources said yesterday.

Mr Jerzy Urban, the government spokesman, confirming the meeting, said humanitarian issues, the status of the church and the church fund for private farmers would be on the agenda.

But church advisers have made clear that humanitarian issues wuld include how to free seven imprisoned Solidarity leaders and four members of the dissident KOR group.

Lay Catholics – some of who acted as advisers to the Solidarity trade union before martial law – have been talking to the authorities about freeing the prisoners, who have been awaiting trial on charges of attempting to overthrow the state for the past two years.

The authorities would apparently like to avoid a big political trial – it would be the most significant in Poland for some 25 years and would almost certainly open up old wounds – but not at the price of seeming weak.

As a result, the imprisoned leaders have been offered, first discreetly, then openly, the possibility of emigrating. But some of the defendants – above all, the two key dissidents, Mr Jacek Kuron and Mr Adam Michnik – have rejected this and would like to use a trial to demonstrate what they believe to be the fragility of the Jaruzelski Government and the errors of socialist policies.

This would be a severe embarrassment (Soviet journals have already been criticizing Polish establishment figures for their diluted socialism), so church efforts to free the prisoners in a mutually acceptable, face-saving way have met with a reasonably sympathetic response.

The negotiations have been kept secret, at least in their details. But some church activists believe that a formula, under which Mr Kuron is given a scholarship to the Vatican university and the others are released, on condition they abstain from political abticity for a specified period might be acceptable

There is, whowever, no entirely straightforward solution. Some of the Solidarity leaders are willing to be released but on a number of conditions, thus reversing the usual course of events, whereby governments and not political prisoners state their terms.

The Authorities, in turn, are anxious to show they have not changed their minds about the "Counter-revolutionary" character of the dissidents.

Reports in the official press yesterday said the prisoners were in generally good health, though Mr Kuron was being treated for a kidney ailment and some of the others had stomach complaints, including ulcers.

Although the leadership of the Solidarity underground had not surrendered. They were now, said Mr Urban,"generals without armies".

● **Carrington praised:** The Secretary-General-elect of Nato, Lord Carrington, was praised yesterday by the *Zycie Warszawy* newspaper for his flexibility and "sceptical view of Cold War rhetoric."

Although Lord Carrington pursued a hard anti-communist line as British Foreign Secretary, he had a developed sense and understanding of history and of the need to accept compromises, the aper said.

Leading article, page 11.

Journalism mourns Richard Hughes

A legend who lives on in fiction

By Richard Dowden

Mr Richard Hughes, *The Times* Hongkong correspondent and the best known and most colourful veteran newspaperman in the Far East, died in Hongkong yesterday aged 77.

His career spanned half a century and included exclusive interviews with Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean in Moscow in 1965. As a journalist he was renowned for his coverage of Japan and Hongkong in the 1950s and 1960s and his writings on China in the first years after the revolution.

A big, burly Australian, Hughes started as a reporter on *The Star* in Melbourne in 1934 and went on to write for leading journals in the Far East, including the *Far Eastern Economist*. He also wrote a number of books, the best known being *Borrowed Place, Borrowed Time*, an introduction to Hongkong. In 1979 he was awarded the CBE for his services to journalism, and last year the Australian Government awarded him a special pension.

He died in hospital, where he had been for five weeks with a liver complaint.

As he grew older Hughes, almost an institution in Hongkong, became more famous as a personality than a journalist. John le Carré used him, barely disguised, as the character Craw in his novel *The Honourable Schoolboy*, and Ian Fleming, his former editor at *The Sunday Times*, based the Australian detective Dikko Henderson on him in the novel *You Only Live Twice*.

In a statement issued last night, John Le Carré said Hughes was an "enormously generous man." He wrote to him before writing *The Honourable Schoolboy* to ask if he objected to being used as a character. He wrote back to say: "You libel me to the hilt, and that's an order."

"It was his generosity that was remarkable," Le Carré said, "and the ribald gut-rending humour. The last thing he said to my face was 'Goodbye, son. Keep your arse to the sunset'."

A measure of his eminence in Hongkong is the plaque bearing his name and image over his favourite table in the Grill Room of the Hongkong Hilton. "It was a sort of shrine", a friend remembers. In the Foreign Correspondents Club, which he helped found and presided over for many years, there has been a bust of him for more than five years.

Mr Frank Giles, former editor of *The Sunday Times* who saw Hughes just before he went into hospital, said yesterday: "Dick's death means the end of a living legend. I don't suppose there was a newspaperman in the world with a greater and more justified reputation for being a 'character'. Yet behind the eccentricity and flamboyance there was a shrewd and well-stored mind.

"He was a lapsed Roman Catholic but always pretended to be an archbishop, referring to everyone as 'Your Grace' and making the sign of the cross at every opportunity."

Mr Derek Davies, editor of the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, said Hughes highlighted the emergence of Japan and China after the Second World War. "He was a true professional, but above all he was great company. He was like sitting down at a table with Falstaff", he said.

Obituary, page 12

Elgin time sharing proposed by Kinnock

From Mario Modiano
Athens

A time-sharing formula that would allow thee Elgin Marbles, now in the British Museum, to be near the Acropolis in Athens – their original site – for most of the time, is being put to the Greek Governmennt by Mr Neil Kinnock, the British Labour Party leader.

Mr Kinnock, who is here with his wife and two teenage children as the official guest of Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Prime Minister, is meeting Miss Melina Mercouri, the Greek Minister of Culture, today to discuss his proposal. "I want to see what her responses are to my suggestions before we take any action", he said.

The kinnocks were guests yesterday at an informal luncheon at Mr Papandreou's country house at Kastri, north of Athens. The two Socialist leaders had a one-hour private meeting, during which they broached a wide range of topics, including the reform of the European Community, Cyprus and the Middle East. "We agreed on almost everything", the Labour leader said.

Earlier the Kinnocks had visited the fifth-century BC Acropolis, from where Lord Elgin removed the marbles almost two centuries ago, while Greece was still under Ottoman rule.

Mr Kinnock told journalists that he wondered how the British would feel if part of the Crown jewels were in another country.

"The Greek people must have access to the marbles. I think that in modern times, with the availability of transport and the construction of a new museum (in Athens), some arrangement cann be reached to ensure that, for a substantial proportion of time, the marbles are at or near their original site."

He refused to elaborate until he had seen Miss Mercouri, but said it would be a step in the right direction if discussions could be switched to the possibility of exchange, occasional rotation and access to the marbles. He emphasized that the nationality of the Acropolis marbles could not be disputed; they were as Greek as Wembley stadium was British.

He was asked if that would be the Labbour Party's policy on the Elgin marbles if it came to power: "I actually think that an arrangement can be made even before that, because of the Force of logic and of international amity" he replied.



Miss Mercouri: Seeing Mr Kinnock today

30 hurt at Talbot in day of fighting

Paris (Reuters) – The future of Peugeot's Talbot car plant near Paris is in doubt after fresh clashes yesterday between strikers and workers trying to restart production lines.

Company officials said about 30 people were injured when, for the second day running, an estimated 1,500 strikers protesting against job cuts prevented production. Strikers hurled bolts and car parts at workers trying to restart the assembly line, they added, while the strikers said foremen in the paint shop threw tear gas bombs and used fire extinguishers to keep them out.

Production of 1,200 cars a day at the Poissy plant has been halted for nearly a month because of the strike.

Broker held in torture chamber

Pittsburgh (AP) – A disgruntled investor dressed as Santa Claus abducted his broker from a Christmas party and punished him for 12 days in a home-made torture chamber because $500,000 in deals had gone sour.

Mr Robert Haye, aged 49, was freed on a farm 50 miles south of Pittsburgh where police found him chained and handcuffed to a bed. The torture chamber included a makeshift electric chair.

French leave

Paris (AFP) – French police have arrested a professional confidence trickster who for two weeks last summer operated from an office in the Interior Ministry, handling official files and demanding bribes for services rendered. He got the job after being released from jail.

Lover's revenge

Manila (Reuter) – A 21-year-old student, jilted by the girl next door, killed four of his reatives, including two children, scrawled a love message on their living-room wall, then fled with cash and jewels worth about £12,000.

Zulus arrested

Pietermaritzburg (RFP) – South African security forces arrested 60 Zulus in Connexion with the killing of a civilian and three black policemen investigating the theft of a herd of goats.

Disney death

Anaheim, California (AP) – A woman visiting Disneyland was killed when she fell off a car on the Matterhorn bobsleds ride and was struck by another sled, amusement park officials said.

Sergeant flees

Hanover (Reuter) – A uniformed East German police sergeant fled across the fortified frontier into West Germany during thhe night, the Hanover border guard said.

Correction

A headline, "Catalans back IRA bombers" (December 28), gave a wrong impression of our report, which was that a minority Catalan political organization had objected to the suggested outlawing of Sinn Fein after the Harrods bombing.

Young technocrat to lead Bulgarian economy

Vienna (Reuter) – Bulgaria has introduced a new government and Communist Party team to guide its economy, one of the most successful in East Europe, through present hard times, Western diplomats and political analysts said yesterday.

The reshuffle, announced on Tuesday after sessions of Parliament and the Central Committee, if of more economic than political significance, though it strengthens further the hand of the party leader, President Todor Zhivkov.

Bulgaria, one of Moscow's most loyal allies, is one of the poorest countries in Europe, but has recorded impressive growth rates in recent years.

The changes merging four ministries into two reshuffling economic portfolios and appointing new members to the Politburo, are aimed at improving economic management. Analysts say decentralizing reforms have not been implemented fully and the hoped-for flexibility has not materialized.

The man charged with putting this right is Mr Chudomir Alexandrov, a technocrat who has worked his way up through the party apparatus.

One of the two full Politburo appointments, he was formerly a secretary of the Central Committee and party head in Sofia. Like many of those receiving new appointments on Tuesday, Mr Alexandrov, aged 47, is remarkably young by the standards of East European leaderships.

Mr Alexandrov takes on the office of First Deputy Prime Minister, a post linked in communist countries to supervision of the economy. He replaces Mr Todor Bozhinov, who moves to one of the new super-ministries to take charge of energy and raw materials.

The other new Politburo member, Mr Yordan Yotov, is chief editor of the party daily, *Rabotnichesko Delo*. He will take the post left vacant by the surprise Politburo dismissal last September of the chief ideologue, Mr Alexander Lilov.

Both Mr Alexandrov and Mr Yotov and the four new cadidate Politburo members are supporters of President Zhivkov. The reshuffle leaves him more firmly in control of the party he has led for nearly 30 years.

Those dropped from office included Politburo member Tsola Dragoicheva, aged 85, who was in the party leadership before the Second World War. It seems she has genuinely left for reasons of age.

One analyst said of the changes: "It's all connected with economic inefficient ... The government changes are simply one device to try and show the people that they want to improve the economic mechanism.

Five held for kidnap

From Peter Nichols, Rome

People have been arrested in connexion with the kidnapping of Signora Anna Calissoni and her son, Giorgio, who were released on Christmas Eve after the young man's ear had been crudely amputated.

The family was said to have paid a sum of up to £1,725,000 after both victims had been threatened with death. It is understood that the arrested men are Sardinian shepherds working in the Latina area south of Rome.

In California yesterday Signor Giorgio Calissoni underwent surgery and doctors said it will be six months before his ear can be "restructured."

هكذا من الأصل

Mondale is outplayed by Jesse Jackson but should win the match

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

It was bad luck for Mr Walter Mondale, the former Vice-President, that the speech he delivered to the National Press Club on Tuesday, marking the 1984 kick-off of his presidential nomination campaign, should have been overshadowed by the success of the Rev Jese Jackson,ne of his chief rivals, in securing the release of Lieutenant Robert Goodman from Syria.

Mr Mondale's campaign staff had hoped to attract national attention for their candidate by arranging the speech during the traditionally quiet period preceding the President's State of the Union address towards the end of January. As it turned out, reports of the speech were relegated to the inside pages of newspapers and brief references on television news.

Those political commentators, who have been predicting for months that Mr Mondale would eventually become afflicted with *front-runneritis*, as Senator Edmund Muskie did in 1972, believe Mr Jackson's coup would be an omen that Mr Mondale's spectacular series of political successes in recent months may be coming to an end at last.

However, given the professionalism with which the Mondale campaign has been conducted, it seems likely the former Senator from Minnesota will easily survive Mr Jackson's temporary media blitz.

Mr Mondale, who celebrates his fifty-sixth birthday today, has scarcely put a foot wrong. Since he began planning his presidential challenge early in 1981, he has built up the largest and most sophisticated campaign organization in the history of the Democratic Party.

This has enabled him to attract the big money he will need to pour into the key primary contests which get under way next month. He has raised almost $10m (£6.5m) and $4.5m more in matching federal funds, which is more than the combined total of the seven other Democratic contenders.


Mr Mondale: Has hardly put a foot wrong

He has also sewn up the endorsements of important constituencies like the trade unions, teachers and the National Organization of Women. The one significant group he has failed to convince is black voters, many of whom cannot be expected to direct their support to the charismatic Mr Jackson.

Mr Mondale's organizational successes are reflected by his high standing in the opinion polls. The most recent (which preceded the relese of Lieutenant Goodman) showed Mr Mondale far in front, with 64 per cent, followed by Senator John Glenn, with 29 per cent, and Mr Jackson, with 10 per cent.

His lead over Senator Glenn, with whom he was running neck-and-neck only a few months ago, also reflects the disarray and bad campaign tactics of the Glenn camp.

Mr Mondale's advisers – and many independent analysts – believe the former Vice-President is assured of easy victories in the two vital opening bouts of the campaign, the Iowa caucuses on February 20 and the New Hampshire primary on February 27.

So confident is he, in fact, that while his rivals are busying themselves trying to drum up support in those two states, Mr Mondale has embarked on a tour of the South where his support is said to be weakest.

Barring any unforeseen disasters – and, so far, Mr Mondale, who has been in public life longer than any of his rivals, has not dropped any political clangers – it is hard to see how he can fail to secure the Democratic nomination when the party holds its convention in San Francisco in July.

But (and it is a *big* but), the question being asked is – how will he fare against President Reagan who is due to declare his candidature on January 29? In his speech on Tuesday, Mr Mondale set out the three themes of a compaign which he hopes will persuade voters to support him rather than Mr Reagan. He would offer, he declared, "a more competitive economy, a more just society and a safer world".

It was significant that he chose to devote his opening speech of the year to the third theme. Democrats believe Mr Reagan is most vulnerable in the areas of foreign policy and defence.

In foreign affairs, however, the Reagan record is much more chequered. As Mr Mondale put it in his speech: "The Middle East and Central America are at war . . . US-Soviet relations are in crisis and the arms talks have collapsed."

Whether voters will view Mr Mondale as "a President who knows what he's doing" and who would "use America's strength to build a safer world", remains to be seen. His performance on Tuesday showed him to be an effective, if not inspiring, speaker who is able to respond to questions far more adeptly then President Reagan.

But he still suffers from a reputation of "whimpishness", which he developed as President Carter's Vice-President. This, together with the widely-held view among Democrats and Republicans that he is a prisoner of the "special interest groups" which have endorsed his candidature, means he is likely to enter the race with Mr Reagan at a distinct disadvantage.

India weathers sto[illegible]n teacup

At the first tea auctions in London since the holiday break prices soared in response to the Indian Government's Christmas ban on exporting certain types of tea, as reported in The Times yesterday. MICHAEL HAMLYN, our South Asia correspondent, explains the background to the Indian decision:

In India tea is drunk strong, with lots of milk (often condensed) and sweet. In any office, no matter how grand of lowly, tea is served to visitors as a matter of course.

Tea stands grow like weeds at the corners of streets – unlicensed, illegal, scruffy, but dispensing the cup that cheers, refreshes, warms at this time of year, but does not inebriate.

Tea consumption in India is increasing like the population, uncontrollably.

The price, too, has been going up even though the cost of the leaf itself in a cracked pottery cup or throwaway clay bowl of tea is the least expensive item there, apart from the hot water. In a cup of tea that will cost you 50 *paise* (3½p) The tea leaves represent only seven *paise*.

In recent years, however, the profitability of the tea gardens has been reduced; costs of inputs were rising by three points for every two-point increase in the sale price. The result is that investment in restocking fertilizer and machinery has dropped.

"Two years ago nearly all the gardens except the very good ones were selling teas at a loss", said a ministry spokesman.

Tea plants have a 10 of 12-year cycle, after which they have to be cut back to the roots to allow regeneration. The harvest after the cut-back is of course, much reduced.

Some gardens, therefore, have put off doing the work, and as a result productivity has fallen badly. Five big gardens in the Darjeeling area are now officially described as "sick".

Government efforts to stimulate the gardens into greater productivity have had only limited success so far. But the Ministry of Commerce forecast yesterday that this year's crop would be 5 per cent bigger than last year's.

The Indian Government was thrown into confusion towards the end of last year when it began to think that the supply of tea for the domestic market was going to run out. The tea that is drunk all over India is CTC tea (cured, toned and curled), which is what is largely drunk in Britain.

Supplies of tea from Sri Lanka were affected by the summer troubles there, and a number of people who did not usually buy India's CTC tea appeared in the market.

One of them was Russia, which is India's biggest customer for tea, taking 70,000 tons a year. For the first time it started buying CTC tea, taking 10,000 tons of it. Iraq, which used to buy a quarter of its tea from India and threequarters from Sri Lanka, reversed the proportions last year.

The feeling was that the new customers had been tempted to make the sw[illegible]se in the price[illegible]s, which went [illegible] a kilogram (£[illegible]er, the end of t[illegible]n. Some grades[illegible]37 rupees, or [illegible]er cent more [illegible]he previous yea[illegible]

The CTC[illegible] to climb, "but[illegible]ss of the su[illegible]iat decided th[illegible] to act", said [illegible]a, the special[illegible]he Ministry o[illegible]ho looks after [illegible]

"There w[illegible]re would not b[illegible]es for the dom[illegible]he Government[illegible]rt of CTC tea [illegible]

The Gove[illegible]ed that hoarders were keeping the tea off the market in order to keep the price high. As far as this country is concerned, the action has had the desired result. At the tea auction on December 26 in Calcutta prices fell by 25 to 30 per cent. The ban is likely to stay in force until harvesting of the new crop starts in April.

Tea industry experts point out that there is a cycle in the way tea prices behave. Every eight years there is a price spasm, and after it the price settles at a higher level. It stays roughly the same in the intervening years.

The last spasm was in 1976, when the price rose from an average £1.15 a kg at the London auction in January to £2.70 in March. By December it has fallen again to £1.18.


Tamil tea-pickers in Sri Lanka, whe[illegible]les hit production last year

Backlash over fire deaths in Berlin

From Michael Binyon
Bonn

The political repercussions of the suffocation on New Year's Eve of six foreign deportees, who started a fire in their detention cell in West Berlin, are growing and have led to demonstrations and calls for the resignation of the Interior Senator in the city Government.

A parliamentary inquiry has begun in Berlin, and police have started an investigation into the wardens at the deportation centre, on suspicion of manslaughter. Herr Heinrich Lummer, the Interior Senator, has spoken of "human failure" and asked whether everything had been done to stop the blaze.

The fire in the Lichterfelde deportation centre was apparently caused by detainees who set fire to their mattresses in protest at the conditions under which they were held. The six men who deid from poisonous fumes – three Sri Lankans, a Lebanese, a Palestinian and a Tunisian – were awaiting deportation as illegal immigrants or after conviction for drug offences.

Police have questioned other prisoners in the centre. One man who left the cell not long before the fire said the wardens, fearing a breakout after the fire had got under way, locked the cell door which the prisoners had barricaded earlier with chairs and mattresses. Only later was the fire brigade called, by which time the door could not be opened because of the heat.

The incident is politically embarrassing to the Christian Democratic Government, already on the defensive and fearing a loss of popularity after the departure this summer of Dr Richard von Weizsäcker, the ruling mayor. The Social Democratic opposition has indirectly called for Herr Lummer's resignation.

The fire has also drawn attention to the large number of illegal immigrants – many involved in drug smuggling – who slip into Weat Berlin from East Berlin without border checks. Greens in the city parliament said the deplorable conditions in the deportation centre were responsible for the tragedy.

Herr Lummer admitted conditions in the centre were unsatisfactory. The police union has several times complained about the intolerable burden placed on wardens by the overcrowding.

The question of asylum and deportation is a touchy one in West Germany at present, especially in Berlin where a Turkish refugee provoked a storm of controversy last year by leaping to his death from the court where his application was being heard. Several hundred people took part in a demonstration in Berlin on Monday against the city's deportation practices.

Arab faces Algarve murder trial

From Martha de la Cal
Lisbon

Jury selection began in the Algarve town of Albufeira yesterday in the trial of Yussef al-Awad, aged 26, the arab who is accused of killing Issam Sartawi, the Palestine Liberation Organisation representative at the Socialist International Congress in Albufeira on April 10 last year.

Mr Sartawi, who was 47 and US-trained heart surgeon, was a PLO moderate who favoured negotiations with Israel. He was a close personal adviser to Mr Yassir Arafat, and was considered an authority on European affairs. He had already been the target of more than 20 death threats from Palestinian radicals.

He was attending the congress as a special guest of Herr Willy Brandt, the former German Chancellor. The invitation was delivered through Dr Mario Soares, the Portuguese Prime Minister, when he was in Beirut, for talks with Mr Arafat. Both the Israeli Socialist delegations at the Albufeira congress raised objections to Mr Sartawi's presence. He had been circulating a petition to be allowed to address the congress.

The killing was claimed by the hardline radical left Palestinian group led by Mr Abu Nidal

Mr Awad was arrested the same night in Lisbon. He was handed over to the police by the taxi-driver who drove him from Albufeira just after the assissination.

Facing trial: Yussef Al-Awad arrives at the court

Pretoria set to reject truce offer

From Our Correspondent
Johannesburg

South Africa is studying Angolan proposals for a ceasefire in the Namibian war, but the conditions set seem certain to be rejected by Pretoria.

President Eduardo Dos Santos, in an open letter to Señor Cuéllar, the United Nations Secretary-General, said Angola was ready to implement a 30-day truce from January 31, but demanded that South Africa pledge "without extraneous considerations" to initiate, within a further 15 days, the seven-month process leading to UN-supervised elections in Namibia.

This is a reference to Pretoria's "linkage" of the UN settlement plan to the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola.

South Africans have been fighting for nearly a month in southern Angola in what is a limited offensive aimed at thwarting guerillas of the South West Africa People's Organization (Swapo).

Pretoria has lost 14 men and claims to have killed 56 guerillas and probably hundreds more in air strikes and artillery bombardments. General Constand Viljoen, the chief of the Defence Force, has said that his troops have clashed with Angolan and Cuban forces for the first time since 1981.

In his letter to the UN Secretary-General, President Dos Santos said South African and Angolan and Angolan troops were engaged in "violent combat" more than 125 miles north of the Namibian border.

Labour congr[illegible]election

Coloured par[illegible]ases Botha

From Ray K[illegible]burg

South Africa's coloured Labour Party yesterday called for an election for members of the separate Coloured parliament, without a preliminary referendum to test overall Coloured support for the new dispensation.

The decision by the party, the biggest and most significant politcal forum for the country's 2.7 million mixed-race Coloureds, is exactly what the Government wanted.

Last year Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, rejected a demand by the Rev Alan Hendrickse, the Labour Party leader, that Coloureds and Indians should vote in a referendum[illegible]as whites.

On Nov[illegible] electorate [illegible] favour of [illegible] Act, unde[illegible] parliaments[illegible] and Colo[illegible] established[illegible] cent turn-o[illegible] but there h[illegible] that separa[illegible] Coloureds [illegible] bring a po[illegible] larly in [illegible] constitution[illegible] dominated [illegible] front.

Mr Hend[illegible] he was hap[illegible] of his party's congress to call for an early election because the party had the funds and infrastructure to fight it, and time was in its favour.

But in an opening address on Tuesday night to about 1,000 congress delegates, the biggest the party has held, Mr Hendrickse said its decision to participate in the new dispensation was not acceptance of the injustices of apartheid. The base of reform would have to be broadened to include all South Africans, he said.

He called for the scrapping of the Immorality Act, the Mixed Marriages Act and the Separate Amenities Act.

Soviet children to get extra year's schooling

Moscow (Reuter) – The Soviet Communist Party unveiled a major plan yesterday to reform the education system and improve teaching at the nation's 142,000 primary and secondary schools.

Listed across the front pages of all main Soviet papers, the changes include an extra year's schooling, greater emphasis on work experience and a modernized teacher training programme.

Last June, President Andropov criticized the school system and the planned changes, some of which are already being introduced, clearly respond to his call for "a fundamental school reform".

S A[illegible]ys it is sorry fo[illegible]lt on envoy

[illegible]ondent Johannesburg

South A[illegible] to Zimbab[illegible] handling of[illegible] at a police[illegible] the diploma[illegible]

Mr R F[illegible] Minister, s[illegible] heard of the[illegible] regret and [illegible] it was regar[illegible] light. Not [illegible] tives of f[illegible] entitled to [illegible] but so we[illegible] South Afric[illegible] of colour, [illegible] apology ha[illegible] Zimbabwe [illegible]

The env[illegible] ga, the D[illegible] of the Zim[illegible] in Johanne[illegible] a traffic police roadblock near Louis Trichardt in the northern Transvaal on December 29

Mr R. F. Botha: "Deep regret and disappointment"

Dutch plea to Indonesia on police killings

Jakarta (Reuter) – Mr Hans van den Broek, the Dutch Foreign Minister, told Mr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, yesterday he hoped death squad attacks on suspected criminals in the former Dutch colony would stop soon.

Mr van den Broek, on an eight-day visit, told reporters after meeting Mr Mochtar that the Government did not deny the attacks had taken place. "I expressed the hope that . . . an end can be put to this situation," he said.

Indonesian human rights groups have said the attacks are part of a military police drive against crime that has claimed 4,000 lives. The Netherlands is one of six Western countries that have expressed concern to Indonesia about the killings.

Mr van den Broek said Mr Mochtar had told him the killings were not part of government policy and were incompatible with the constitution.

The killings were carried out against a background of a soaring crime rate which should be taken into account, the Dutch Minister said.

Building trouble for Spanish TV chief

From Harry Debelius
Madrid

Director General of Spanish Radio and Television (RTVE), Señor Jose Maria Calvino is involved in a storm over the purchase of a 300 million peseta (£1.3m.) building in Madrid, against the advice of various official bodies.

Spain's official state auditing body, the Tribunal of Accounts, is to investigate the purchase by the state television monopoly, according to reports published here.

Señor Calvino personally rejected the advice and insisted on buying the building.

The Council of State, the Directorate General of the National Patrimony, and other bodies agreed with a recommendation by the RTVE advisory board against buying the property, which is allegedly ill-suited to the needs of television, and is the subject of litigation.

In its 1980 recommendation the Council of State said "there are sufficiently grave reasons for passing up this offer, because what is required is a building, not a court case. It was built in serious violation of the zoning regulations which apply to the area."

The Directorate of the National Patrimony recommended a call for tenders for a suitable building.

Residents in the vicinity are calling for the demolition of the new, unoccupied building, and threaten to sue municipal authorities if they authorize use of the building by the television network.

Opponents of the purchase say that the proximity of the building to a powerful broadcasting antenna of a Madrid radio station, Radio Espana, would create undesirable interference in electronic equipment,

SPECTRUM

Mirroring the Abbey habit

The Times Profile
Clive Thornton

A former newspaper editor-turned-media-wheeler-dealer recently convened a dinner party at the Garrick Club to mull over weighty questions of press ownership.

Clive Thornton, no clubman himself, accepted, by virtue of his position as chairman-designate of Mirror Group Newspapers, an invitation to attend. "I was looking forward to listening to the diners" (who included editors Donald Trelford of *The Observer*, Mike Molloy of the *Daily Mirror*, and pundits Des Wilson and Peregrine Worsthorne), he said. The occasion however, turned out to be acerbic and Thornton added ruefully: "They came at me from all sides".

Was he a Cecil King, a man big enough for the great position of power and privilege he was taking? Thornton mused. He could not possibly make a success of the job without the unions' cooperation, and that he would not get. Above all, what was he going to *do* with Britain's only Labour-supporting popular daily?

His answer is altogether too bland, coming as it does from someone who has made a stock-in-trade of institutional upheaval. The real answer is that he is still assessing the business of newpapers, adjusting his own fully-fledged set of prejudices (the need, for example, for "a strong left-of-centre" viewpoint) to the political economy of the press.

His provenance gives some clues that may be counted reassuring. For there is a certain affinity between the great national institution Mr Thornton has just left and the one of which he took command on January 1. The Abbey National Building Society and the Mirror Group are bastions of capitalism with a popular, even collectivist edge. They are mass movements: seven million savers, 10 million readers. More than money-making machines (something the Mirror has less obviously been in recent years) both institutions embody some hazy but warm, social vision.

At its best the Mirror conveys a sense of social solidarity; its voice one of popular uplift. Clive Thornton talks of the building societies being built, over generations by the "artisan class". Their virtues are those of thrift, mutuality based on the wish of ordinary people to gain, through house-purchase, some security in a changing world.

That, of course, is to put a fine gloss on Reed International's move to recruit the man from the Abbey to take over the seat formerly occupied by Cecil King and Hugh Cudlipp. Thornton was looking to move from Abbey National. Last summer the field of candidates for the Mirror job was unlikely to have been too large: who would be eager to grapple with the printers, the *Sun* and hivings-off with which the Mirror is beset?

Besides, getting carried away with the Abbey's social vision could result in both underestimating a highly successful organization man and in failing to recognize how far there has been a quite conscious process of building up the Thornton image: cartel buster, provider of housing for the people and so on.

The image is certainly potent. In the inner councils of the big building societies the metaphor varies, but Mr Thornton's pressure on mortage rates and go-it-alone tactics have earned him the descriptions "maverick", "gadfly" and "public menace". The man from the Leeds two months ago accused him of doing "irreparable harm" to the building society movement.

The image is not wholly undeserved, but it obscures the fact that Thornton is a corporate lawyer who reached the top after a long stint in financial and legal institutions; he began work in a solicitor's office in 1943. It also conceals his appreciation that good personal publicity has also been good for the Abbey National: none of the policies or promotions has been directed at any other target than furthering the building society's interests and endeavouring to topple the Halifax from the number one spot.

"Someone recently said I had enjoyed more personal coverage than the whole of the building society movement put together. I realized that public attention was necessary to secure change and that if that meant attention being focused on me – I used to be a fairly private person – then so be it."

After a career in legal work for banks and building societies, Thornton joined the Abbey National as chief solicitor in 1967. His appointment in 1978 as chief general manager-designate surprised many who underestimated the innovatory spirit of the Abbey board. He was after all, a lawyer, and in this highly traditional business movement the "professional" classes were looked at askance as material for the top of the tree. The board none the less recognized that he had a personal style and an agenda for action that would shake things up.

Michael Heseltine is a kindred spirit

The Thornton imprint is firmly implanted on the Abbey National's involvement with building for private rental (getting legal sanction for that brought him into contact with a kindred spirit, Michael Heseltine, and led to a fruitful if brief partnership in the wake of the 1981 riots); also on the final abandonment of "red-lining" not very attractive areas of house-purchase. He persuaded the building societies to reveal the contents of surveyors' reports to prospective house-buyers and thus provide a safeguard against unscrupulous estate agents and solicitors.

The authorship of "Granny bonds" savings schemes at rates linked with the rate of inflation, the Abbey's interest-bearing cheque account, and a series of ploys to put the building societies in full competition with the other financial institutions for attracting investment, are all attributed to Thornton.

Throughout his career with the Abbey, the press was peppered with his pungent "quotes" on such topics as the virtues of competition, and the inner cities. Perhaps more importantly, substantial work of internal reorganization was being effected at the Abbey's headquarters.

After five years in the top post there Clive Thornton says (with a turn of phrase to delight a *Daily Mirror* sub-editor) that his newspaper obituary "would last as long as it takes to wrap the fish". That is perhaps true in the sense that he has become a popular symbol of the building societies' adaptation to a new age; as they decline in numbers and become multi-dimensional financial bodies instead of mere facilitators of house-purchase, his role as catalyst and prophet may in fact come to be seen as transient. But in another sense his self-deprecatory assessment represents false modesty. House-purchase in Britain is vital to people's well-being; Clive Thornton deserves a place in the history books for the part he has played in extending home-ownership by removing anomalies and inequities that hindered it.

He half-recognizes this. "As I was leaving the office recently, a man approached me on the pavement. We had helped in developing a housing estate on a rubbish tip in Bermondsey. He said: 'You've given me my first decent home'. That is the sort of person I've tried to help: if we've made people's lot a bit better in inner city areas, that's gratifying."

Talk of obituaries is a bit premature. Clive Thornton is 54, has a five-year contract with Mirror Group Newspapers and, by his own estimation, is "not a person who could take it lightly".



Clive Thornton: there has been a conscious process of building up the image. Photograph by Nobby Clark

What then are his chances of success in an ailing industry? First, there is a keen perception of the task: it is more than just chairing a newspaper group, a task he says that would be "less interesting". "At the Mirror", he says, referring to the impending flotation of the group as a commercial entity wholly separate from Reed's and IPC, "the question is whether we can preserve the integrity and standing of the papers in the face of determined speculators who see an attractive balance sheet that could be stripped down. That is our prime task."

The future of the *Daily Mirror* as a left-of-centre newspaper matters to him: the loss of a right-of-centre title would be of much less concern to him.

A mission to arrest national decline

Much has been made of Clive Thornton's humble origins on Tyneside, where he left school at 14, fashioned a career and gained an education by his own efforts, unaided by inheritance of money or advantage; also of the strong will that enabled him to do this despite the handicap of losing a leg in a childhood accident. His background explains his feel for popular aspiration and a keen sense of the unfairness of unemployment and homelessness. It is a background, he jokes, that might have been a disadvantage, but that now, in the *Mirror* job, has become an advantage.

Proud though he is of Walker-on-Tyne – a shipbuilding community on the bank opposite Jarrow – he is no "professional" northerner. Years of metropolitan experience may not have rubbed out his Tyneside glottal stops, but he is fully at ease in talking of his farm, his prize livestock; he patently enjoys the trappings of corporate success.

A further reason for tackling the Mirror job with relish is a sense of personal mission in helping to arrest national decline. That may sound pompous – which Clive Thornton is not. What he says is that in all the areas that control the private wealth of Britain there is a great lack of flair, imagination: a sense of adventure and managerial risk-taking are squeezed out of executives on their way up. Trade unions have been allowed to abuse their power precisely because management has been content to jog along, not to rock the boat, to appease . . .

At the Garrick Club dinner, Thornton told his questioners that he intended to make the Mirror work, to turn it into a going concern. This was not enough for pundits who demanded to know what the political pay-off was, how the Mirror's profile was going to change. After the dinner, Clive Thornton wrote a generous letter to the rudest of his fellow guests saying he had found the criticism stimulating. He would like to meet again in a few months when the evidence of a changed – or unchanged – *Daily Mirror* would be at hand. We must watch the tabloid space.

David Walker

moreover... Miles Kington

Flogging the living word

"Writing about writers is probably the most exacting experience," says Alan Plater in the *Radio Times*. "For mostly all they do is sit and think."

Not if they've been through the Moreover School of Writing!

Sitting around thinking doesn't sell books.

What sells books is going on chat shows, standing on your head and dressing in outrageous clothes.

Television sells books. Gossip sells books. Scandal sells books. Serialization in the *Sunday Times* sells books. Being a spy for the Russians sells books.

There's only one thing that doesn't sell books – and that's sitting and thinking!

At the Moreover School of Writing we teach writers to get off their bottoms – and get out and sell. Anyone can write a book, but it takes talent to flog it.

"Dear Moreover," writes a satisfied author from Penge, "thanks to your lessons I managed to get on *Start the Week* and *Stop the Week* in the same week, not only that but I was also rude to Kenneth Robinson and Robert Robinson, this was really good for sales, well, thanks again."

No points for grammar, but who cares about grammar? That man has got the right idea, thanks to his intensive fortnight at the Moreover Upward Bound School.

"Dear Moreover," writes George Orwell, "I just want to thank you for advising me to name my book after a specific year. As you predicted, 1984 has seen my sales rocketing. Of course, I realize 1985 is goint to be a pretty duff year for me, but I'll have made my pile by then."

Not a genuine letter, of course, because Orwell has been dead for many years, but as anyone who has attended our Forgery Seminar will tell you, people will buy forgeries by the thousand if it is properly presented.

"Dear Moreover," writes Bernard Levin, "one of the greatest pleasures in life is going on Frank Deblarney's TV programme with Edward Heath and learning something about book-selling from one of the greatest experts in the field. As Edward and I sank our teeth afterwards into the succulent cling-film sandwiches provided by the BBC, he told me that he had started attending your classes 40 years ago. You had advised him to become prime minister before he even started thinking of selling books. Wonderful advice!"

Another fake letter, of course, but that's the name of the game. Edward Heath did come to us 40 years ago, but we advised him that even if he became prime minister we couldn't see him selling any books. One of out little mistakes! At about the same time we advised Evelyn Waugh that he would never sell *Brideshead Revisited* if he didn't get the TV rights sewn up. How right we were.

Last year we instituted a new course, "Be a Famous Person and Flog Your Holiday Snaps", and already such diverse personalities as Prince Andrew, Koo Stark and Jenny Agutter have soared to fame and fortune after a two-week course at our outpost at Passport Fotos of Kilburn, tutors Denis Healey and Lord Burberry. This year we intend to offer the same for water colour painting and hope very much to get Sir Hugh Casson as our resident painter.

Meanwhile, if you have already written a book and just don't seem able to get on the media, don't despair! Above all, don't sit around and think. Just fill in this little coupon and send it off to us, enclosing a cheque for £500.

I have recently published a book, but I have never seen it in a bookshop/I cannot get Melvyn Bragg to ring me back/Paul Theroux had already done the same sort of book.

If I go on a chat show, I can do a bit of tap dancing/juggling/ instant drawing/Neil Kinnock imitation/ragtime piano.

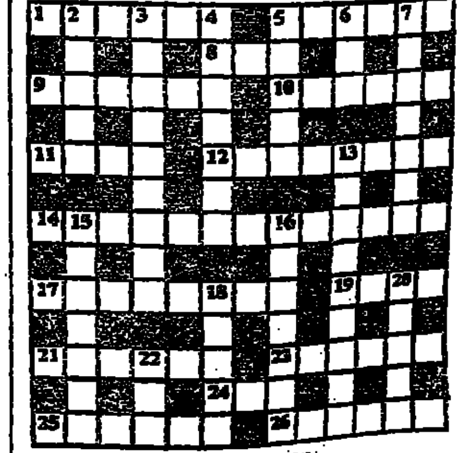
I would be prepared in desperation to go on breakfast TV/be nice to Russell Harty/take off articles of clothing/ appear on the same programme as Shirley Conran.

My book was written by me/someone suggested by the publishers/the publishers/Hitler.

If all else failed, I would undertake to change my name/image/sex.

Signed ....

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 240)



ACROSS
1 Hindu retreat (6)
5 Exchange (6)
8 Northern diver (3)
9 Tease lightly (6)
10 Service organization (6)
11 Gamble (4)
12 Passed (8)
14 Pretext (8,5)
17 Pasta cheese (8)
19 Water plant (4)
21 Verse (6)
23 Depression (6)
24 Goods vehicle (3)
25 Crop (6)
26 Attaché (6)

DOWN
2 Clearly defined (5)
3 Fine network (9)
4 Wireless pioneer (7)
5 Glide over ice (5)
6 Coat cake (3)
7 One-eyed giant (7)
13 Ambidextrous (3,6)
15 Betrayer (7)
16 Original (7)
18 Staff (5)
20 Large gib sail (5)
22 Unused (3)

SOLUTION TO No 239
ACROSS: 1 Repeat 4 Lay off 7 Vase 8 Innocent 9 Whiskers 12 Eel 15 Visual 16 Podium 17 Due 19 Shoot out 24 Espousal 25 Etch 26 Storey 27 Defect
DOWN: 1 Rave 2 Post haste 3 Trick 4 Liner 5 Yack 6 Fence 10 Snaps 11 Scout 12 Etiquette 13 Lame 14 Avid 18 Upset 20 Hussy 21 Oiled 22 Moor 23 Shut

More haste, less safety

With the advent of modern construction techniques, much old, painfully acquired wisdom was forfeited. Consequently in this high-technology age, we are having to research to find statistical data to rediscover theories the masons and builders of former years seem to have known intuitively. To our high-powered chagrin, we discover that even the most advanced of technologies has still failed to tame climate and weather.

For example, many buildings in England are rendered, or harled, in Scotland, a process one associates most with country or seaside fishing village buildings, but which is now one of the cheaper ways of getting a building waterproofed. In the old days, building ceased during bad or winter weather. Nowadays, modern contracts and lawyers insist that building carries on throughout winter, except in exceptionally unclement circumstances.

Research by the Cement and Concrete Association shows, however, that harling and rendering of brick or stone walls is inadvisable between November and March, as the covering maybe rejected because of climactic conditions.

Government grant cutbacks may compel architects and builders to undertake building works in these dangerous periods. Some local authorities, like Edinburgh, are only processing grants on the basis that there is an undertaking to finish the entire project by the end of the financial years that is March 21.

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research
Architecture

Scottish roots

According to Philadelphian Americans, Robert Smith (1722-1777) was the first American architect. He is the undisputed author of a number of colonial-classical buildings in that region, the finest survivor of which is the Carpenter's Hall (1770). The Carpenter's company historian, architect Charles Peterson, has spent the last few years leading a study into Smith's origins for – apart from the fact that he arrived in America in 1749 with a boat load of Glaswegian Quakers – little was known of his background.



Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia

The research revealed that Smith was born in Dalkeith in 1722. A plaque was unveiled last year in the church to celebrate the fact, and a book, half written in America, and half in Scotland, is planned. The Scottish end will be the remit of historian John Gifford, whose task is to describe the cultural background which he left at the age of 21. It was the time of James Gibbs (from Aberdeen), Colen Campbell, James Smith, and William Adam.

Dead wood



Remember the slogan "Plant a tree in '73"? Everybody had to hie out with acorns, dung and shovels to mitigate our crimes against the environment. Hundreds of thousands of trees were planted, but within four years about 70 per cent had perished. The reasons are still imperfectly understood: the disastrously dry summer of 1976, vandalism, and incompetent planting have accounted for a number.

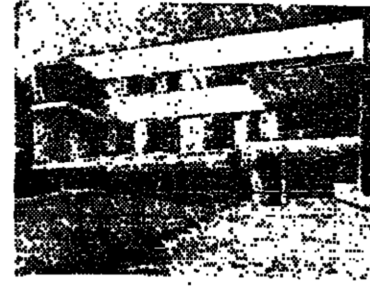
Recent Forestry Commission research, investigating an estimated 36 per cent failure rate of tree planting related to motorway building, may have uncovered the major problem – the drying-out of roots *before* planting takes place. Laboratory and field tests further concluded that control of grass immediately adjacent to trees was critical, and that the rates of growth could be doubled if the landscape and the built facilities were integrated in advance, with landscape architect, contractor, grower and maintenance workers carefully coordinated.

Since the country spends some £54m every year on trees and shrubs, the loss of £18m of this on dying trees is an important problem. Perhaps the message should now be: "Plant some more in '84".

Scots list

Documentation of British architectural history since the nineteenth century has been dominated by journals, most of them published from London, to the detriment of other regions. The effects of this bias have been revealed by a current study of Scottish architecture of the 1930s. The team is funded mainly by the MSC, with the backing of other bodies such as the Scottish Office and the National Trust for Scotland.

A study of the reference books and journals for significant details of Scots buildings of the period usually uncovers the same 20 buildings. Neil Baxter, the research leader at the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland (RIAS), reports that his team has so far logged and registered almost 5,000 projects, photographing 1,000 of them. Among them there is a core of interesting buildings which could number over 200, predominantly cinemas, houses, major hospitals and schools, with a smattering of road houses, factories, hotels and blocks of flats.



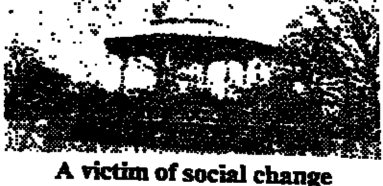
Unchallenged: Max Fry's Sun House, Hampstead

Green lungs

We all love our great Victorian parks but few of us visit them. The authorities are no longer prepared to pay for the upkeep they were designed for. Social patterns have changed, and a well-educated and travelled public is no longer interested in a few poorly caged macaws or desultory ducks on a decaying pond. The bandstand may not have been used for decades; the summer houses are rotting or closed; and people question whether they are still "safe".

There are three lines of research and experiment about the future of these parks. The first is the reintroduction of nature with "ecological parks" for biological eduction, or city farms, both of which could be run by local schools or the community.

The second questions whether these parks are, in fact, in the best locations. In London and Liverpool, MSC teams are aiding local communities to create smaller, more local parks on derelict land instead, which might put the future value of the larger parks in question. The third considers a wider system of "linked nature spaces". Proposals for something of the sort were advanced ten years ago, linking the Embankment, Belgrave Square, Hyde Park, Regent's Park and up to Hampstead Heath.



A victim of social change

Whatever the outcome, the cities need far more greenery if the increasing levels of carbon monoxide and other pollutants are to be curtailed.

Charles McKean

The correct date of the ending of the occupation of Qasr Ibrim (Findings, Jan 2) was 1817.

هكذا من الأصل



Partners in a death-pact: Henriette Vogel and Heinrich von Kleist – the latter at the age of 23, in 1801, in a miniature portrait by Peter Friedel

For one who is counted among the great German poets, Kleist is strangely little appreciated in Britain: **Michael Ratcliffe** welcomes the opportunity to know him better

Death presented as life's crowning glory



Kleist
A Biography
By Joachim Maass
Translated by Ralph Manheim
(Secker and Warburg, £12.95)

"Who would write", demanded Byron noisily, firing several blanks into his journal after a bilious day, "who had anything better to do?... Look at the querulous and monotonous lives of the 'genus' – except Cervantes, Tasso, Dante, Ariosto, Kleist (who were brave and active citizens), Aeschylus, Sophocles and some other of the antiques also, what a worthless, idle brood it is!" Kleist is the suprise there, only two years after his death; but then to die was the one thing Kleist had thought of that was better than writing.

He accomplished it with perfect precision on a late November afternoon in the grounds of a pub overlooking the Kleiner Wannsee between Potsdam and Berlin. The death-pact with the mortally ill Henriette Vogel, reported at length in *The Times*, deplored by Goethe as unnatural and by Wagner as inartistic, was admired not only by Byron but by all writers born since with one skin painfully too few, for whom Kafka spoke when he said that of such only Heinrich von Kleist (1777-1811) had truly transcended the poet's despair and "found the right solution". There is plenty of evidence in Byron's letters and journals to suggest that his own progress to Missolonghi was a willed hope that destiny would intervene to the same peaceful end. If he also hoped thereby for oblivion, he was being uncharacteristically naive, for the sacrificial hopelessness of his mission made certain that, even if nobody read a line of his poetry again, his immortality was sure.

So it was with Kleist. For if Byron drifted indifferently towards death – keeping his options on this world, we may fancy, ever so slightly ajar – Kleist compelled and exulted in death's arrival, running before it, opening every door and flooding the way with joy and light. The exact spot, occasion and death-companion were all selected in advance; the savage depressions which disturbed so much of his short life fell away in the hours preceding the short journey to Wannsee, and the autopsy afterwards recorded that the grey matter of the brain was unusually firm for a man greeting death in this way.

Joachim Maass, in what appears to be the first full life translated into English, treats Kleist's death as the poet's final masterpiece, the crowning triumph, as it were, of his life. Kleist and Henriette skim stones across the water, dance like satyrs in and out of the fog as they finish their outdoor coffee and put away the rum. This doubtless damp and gentle Dionysiad is observed by the woman from the pub, who then leaves them. Almost immediately, Kleist fires both shots.

He had written eight stories of a dense, innovative and disconcerting simplicity (translated by David Luke and Nigel Reeves in *The Marquise of O and Other Stories*, Penguin, £2.25); and seven plays plus one fragment which together comprise what is regarded as German literature's most original dramatic oeuvre. It is these plays which, despite a recent *Prince of Homburg* at the National and a *Penthesilea* in Battersea, we have yet to measure adequately to the dimensions of our stage. It should not be impossible, but until it is done we shall not know the half of him.

Maass's *Kleist* – first published in 1957 and revised in 1977 – is a good start. The English edition dispenses with notes, attributions and (more irritating) bibliography, but Maass is a gifted all-rounder who combines man, life and work in a critical narrative and describes a handful of unfamiliar masterpieces with an empathy which will compel English readers to want to know them better: in his hands *Amphitryon* is witty and *Käthchen of Heilbronn* sublime. That is a far-from-common gift in literary biographers.

Kleist is perhaps the most Prussian of great German poets – not in the spurred and pickle-helmeted sense by which the term "Prussian" is simplistically misunderstood today, but in his Junker's awareness of the individual's born duty to serve society and the state. This patriotism exploded into passionate Francophobia against Napoleon (but not against Rousseau, Molière and Montaigne, three mentors) during the invasion of Prussia in 1806, and confronted his own far from traditional restlessness with a violence that in the end destroyed him.

He was not an "autobiographical" writer, but the pursuit of justice and the defence of honour inform both his work and life. There is more than a touch of the chivalrous knight in this side of Kleist as a succession of high-waisted, neo-classical *belles dames* – Luise, Caroline, Wilhelmine, Marie, Ulrike, Madeli and Henriette – come to the fore and find the poet kneeling at their feet. Henriette was not the first to be offered death, but she was the only one who said yes, so she got the part.

Kleist's characters, like their creator, live dangerously. Lives are at stake in every line of *The Betrothal in Santo Domingo* and its equally brilliant companion, *The Earthquake in Chile*. When tensions snap like twigs in a Kleist story, they set off the booby-traps of malign chance and the wrong people start to die: other people's children, girlfriends, wives; people in the street who are not even named. "I only made the verses", he protested, when people complained that *Penthesilea* was too bloody, "Believe me, I took the world as it is." Every evening in 1984 the news will prove him right.

He has also become the honorary original outsider, the *Ur-Alternativ*, the folk-hero of Goethephobes, sublime man child destroyed by complacen old boy. But for Goethe' refusal to back Kleist's geniu with his own prestige, the argument goes, Kleist's course might have been very different. It is an argument which does Kleist almost as great a disservice as Goethe, for one genius does not rise because another falls. True, they quarrelled over Goethe's well-meaning but amateurish production of *The Broken Jug*, but Kleist gave more than as good as he got in return, and in print, and the differences beween the two men were far more fundamental even than those of age, embracing the very purpose of art and the nature of Nature itself. Goethe was the optimist of harmony and reconciliation; Kleist the realist for whom Reason alone was no longer

Doing justice to those who can no longer defend the

Impact Erebus
By Gordon Vette with John MacDonald
(Hodder & Stoughton, £9.95)

On November 28, 1979, in broad daylight, Air New Zealand flight TE901, on a sightseeing flight to the Antarctic, flew at a height of 1,500 feet straight into the lower slopes of a snow-covered volcano on Ross Island, Mount Erebus. All 237 passengers and 20 crew were killed: the worst disaster to strike New Zealand since the end of the Second World War.

The report of the chief inspector of air accidents quickly found its probable cause in the decision of the commander to continue the flight at low level towards an area of poor surface and horizon definition, when the crew were uncertain of their precise position, and their subsequent inability to detect the steeply rising terrain which interupted the DC10's flight-path. In other words, our old friend "pilot error" was responsible. And yet, passengers' photographs, taken downwards from side windows right up until impact and recovered from the wreck, with their bodies, in appalling conditions, showed the aircraft to have been flying in gin-clear weather.

Such was the magnitude of the disaster and public disquiet that a New Zealand judge was appointed as a Royal Commission to inquire further. Mr Justice Mahon duly reported after taking evidence for six months. Very differently from the chief inspector, he found that none of the flight crew made any error which contributed to the disaster. *Impact Erebus* describes parts of the campaign to save their reputations which was fought, and won, on highly technical ground. The Royal Commission found that the single effective cause of the accident was a management change in the latitudinal and longitudinal coordinates of the southernmost waypoint of the computerized flight plan taking the *DC10* from a safe route, even at low altitude, over an area of ice-covered sea to a route directly over Mount Erebus. This change was not made known to the flight crew who loaded the DC10's computer with the revised flight plan not realizing that low flight, in what turned out for them to be misleading visibility, could be fatal. The fatal hazard was the optical phenomenon known as "whiteout".

The existence and effects of polar whiteout were insufficiently known to anyone at Air New Zealand at the time. Consequently, the crew were not briefed about it when preparing for their first Antarctic flight. When whiteout exists, by the interaction of sunlight, snow, cloud and reflection, it induces the belief in a pilot that he is flying over flat terrain with unlimited forward visibility, because it prevents change in the terrain level being perceived by him, even though the change may be as great as from sea level to a steep mountainside directly in the flight-path of his aircraft.

Had it not been for the persistence of Captain Vette and others in propounding the whiteout theory, and had it not been also for the methodical analysis by the judge of many related causal factors, the probable cause of the accident first determined by the chief inspector would not have been changed and the reputations of the flight crew restored. Eggshell, in the normal way, is not more fr unlucky

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An autobiography and (right) a review, by the same author, of a milestone in classical s

Destinies of life unfulfilled

The Flutes of Autumn
By Peter Levi
(Harvill, £7.95)

Peter Levi, so far, has been many things. He started off paradoxically as a Roman Catholic Jew, surrounded by oddities such as his brother's godmother, "a French lady from Selfridge's hat department" who "used to run out with a shovel to pick up horse manure for her garden". All this was in wartime Ruislip, then still a village hanging on to the outer skirts of London: in Levi's own characteristically vivid words, it lay in "that scruffy umbracious margin where the town was just beginning to dissolve the countryside in its dark acid". He became, in time, Jesuit priest, classicist, schoolmaster, scoutmaster, poet, prison chaplain, archaelolgical correspondent for *The Times*, don and patermilias.

The flutes of autumn, heard by the Austrian poet Trakl after the battle of Gordek in 1914, sounded a requiem for all the might-have-beens who perished there. This book, a fusion of autobiography and philosophical reflection on British history, similarly sounds a sad note for unfulfilled destinies. It records "the growth of a boy's consciousness of places in Britain, of landscapes and countrysides, and the petrified, dead conflict that they embody". From suburban Ruislip, whose "cinemas were emotional brothels", he went to Prior Park to be educated "in some raw sense of the word", by the Irish Christian Brothers. In a nice piece of polemic, he concludes, in agreement with Joyce, that "Irish Catholicism adds an extra twist of the knife" to boarding school life. Yet it was the landscape of Prior Park which proved important: it educated him "as the Brothers could not have done". The school cultivated in him a self-confessed snobbery about the countryside, which tempered, has remained. His final school years were spent at Beaumont, by Windsor Park, after which he joined the Jesuits at Roehampton who sent him, on long walks: "with a few coppers of no money at all" he explored "every square inch of Westminster Abbey", an achievement which sadly, the worldy commercialsim of today's Abbey, "the greatest monument of Early English Christianity", does not allow.

Successively he moved on to Heythrop, Oxford, Stonyhurst, constantly aware of that record of tyranny embedded in the countryside around him and at the same time enchanted by the beauties of nature. He reviles the barbarities of our ancestors, entertaining no high opinion of the English: their history is full of the murders of both peoples -d cultures. The Romans, " sustain his most passionate censure: "Alas, there was nowhere in England left unpenetrated by the Romans or unravaged afterwards". They were the agents of slavery, "the most degraded and miserable condition known to man".

"By 1974", he tells us, "as a priest, I was falling to pieces". We suspect this: he had become a left-over from the world of Waugh. The Jesuit priest had been beagling at Oxford, and had found nothing more acceptable to drink at aa vast and dignified hotel than champagne ("we were lucky in the vintage"). Finally the translator of Pausanias parted from the Order and married. His life has been transformen: "Private life with someone you love is the greatest of human pleasures".

This unusual autobiography is intense and intimate. It charts the development of his huge capacity for loving both people and places, and will please equally those who know his poetry and these who do not. He has in abundance what Jesuit houses have lacked, "common humanity". Some poets do not write elegant, well turned prose: this one does. There are none of Trakl's muttered undertones here: the flutes wail clearly their beautiful lament.

Brian Martin



Levi: humanity

Wondrous p

Supplementum Hellenisticum
By Hugh Lloyd-Jones and Peter Parsons
(Walt de Gruyter, Berlin and New York, £100)

Not long ago it was thought unscholarly and disreputable and even somewhat affected to read the classics for pleasure. Just as you had to suffer to be beautiful, you had to sweat over books, and *Daphnis and Chloe* was not on the syllabus. It was then a relief and a surprise to find that language set you free to roam as you chose among vast, uncharted territories. The later the Greek was, the less severe, the subtler and more pleasurable it seemed to be: that is how one felt. Even the minor Hellenistic writers we know only from their fragments are as fresh and gleaming as a basket of unfamiliar fish.

For longer than my lifetime every refugee from the centre of the subject has had to use an inadequate collection called *Collectanea Alexandrina*, which left out as much as it collected. More and more pieces of papyrus have accumulated since then, a yellowing snowdrift of ancient poetry. Now at last, in what is sometimes thought of as the sunset or the twilight of classical studies, this whole invaluable detritus has been combed through and sorted and assembled. The fat single volume of *Supplementum Hellenisticum* contains the whole corpus of uncollected Hellenistic poetry, and an index to it all. It is an astonishing and monumental book. It proves, if proof were needed, that classical stud its u least

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Analysis of intuition

Musician sublime

Beethoven and the Voice of God
By Wilfred Mellers
(Faber, £20)

Beethoven is universally understood, which is why he is so difficult to understand. In most of his major works – the symphonies, quartets, concertos and sonatas – there are no words to help us. So what is he saying? Professor Mellers has the answer. Beethoven's music is a search for the "Hidden Song", a search conducted even in the earliest piano sonatas but becoming most intensive and fulfilled in the last years. The purpose of this book is to travel in pursuit, and to find, particularly in the last movement of the last sonata and the *Missa solemnis*, Beethoven hearing the Voice of God.

This is not as fanciful as it might sound. We have plenty of evidence that Beethoven regarded composition as a spiritual exercises, above all during his last decade, which is the period with which Mellers is most concerned: fully three-quarters of his book is devoted to the late piano works and the great Mass. Certainly Beethoven felt himself to be in communion with God. Our difficulty lies in knowing what he meant by God, and whether he was right.

Mellers's God is easier to place, since we have heard quite a bit of him during the last twenty years or so. His prophets are Blake and Martin Buber; he worries Kierkegaard and exalts Virginia Woolf; he teases Eliot and shines on Yeates: he dicloses himself in early Christian esoterica, in Rosicrucianism and in the works of a variety of modern *illuminati*. No wonder Beethoven hears him as well.

The range of reference might seem to be justified by Mellers's contention that all mystical writers, whether in words or music, are talking about the same experiences: the sense of time stopping, the feeling of contact with the holy, the yearning for paradise, which cannot be attained because it lies in the past of idealized childhood. But if this is so, if all these paths to the divine are parallel, then they cannot meet. One cannot, for example, explain very much about the Credo from the *Missa solemnis* in terms of Greek and Egyptian resurrection myths, tree symbolism and tarot cards.

Happily these are only Mellers's spices. As in the companion volume *Bach and the Dance of God* (1980), a great bulk of the text concerned with musical analysis of a traditional kind, carried out with zest, thoroughness and very plausible intuition. What Mellers has to say about, for example, the A major Piano Sonata, Op 101, the Diabelli Variations and the puzzling Bagatelles will refresh anyone's response to these works, and there are potent remarks too thrown out about a whole range of pieces not subjected to detailed examination: *Fidelio*, the Seventh Symphony, the later quartets. If his theological extravagances can be overlooked – and they fail all too noticeably to interlock with the main matter – then Mellers can open us at least to the Voice of Beethoven.

Paul Griffiths

Operative answers

SOE
Special Operations Executive in the Far East
By Charles Cruickshank
(Oxford, £12.95)

Field Marshal Lord Slim was a cool, clear-sighted commander. The fact that in the autumn of 1944 he recommended that the British SOE should be replaced in the area of his 14th Army by its American equivalent, OSS, raises very serious questions many of which are now answered by Mr Cruickshank's cool, clear-sighted history. It is sad that at the end, weighing the question of SOE's achievement in this vast theatre, one is reminded of H. G. Wells's wounding assessment of the product of Henry James's novels: "a dead kitten and a piece of string".

Evidently, as might be expected, the fault did not lie with the men in the field. Mr Cruickshank's narrative discloses that courage and endurance were not the monopoly of our agents in Europe. But they lacked proper guidance. There are times, as one reads this tale of contradiction and confusion, when one feels that the authorities in London were as ignorant of conditions in the Far East as was their Prime Minister. Neither political nor military overlords come out of this story well.

It is a mistake not to be very clear, at the top, about the limiting factors which will affect a delicate clandestine organization like SOE. It was pressed, on all sides, to undertake sabotage, though this had never been its primary mission when the Executive was created. But sabotage was incredibly difficult in the Far East, so much so that the whole war produced only a few major instances. The most notable, moreover, was mounted from outside the theatre – the case of Colonel Lyon, who sailed a small craft from Australia to Singapore, blew up Japanese shipping and sailed all the way back again, only, alas, to be captured and executed on his next expedition.

A general problem, affecting other activities besides sabotage, was the lack of a "sea to swim in", that support from local inhabitants without which the clandestine withers, and which, in the west, made France, Greece, Yugoslavia and Poland fruitful areas, but not Germany. Mr Cruickshank's analysis, country by country, shows that the British Empire left a sullen, hostile residue in Burma (though not among the hill tribes); that in Sumatra the natives were simply hostile; that French Indo-China was contorted by politics; and that in Malaya one stepped through a minefield.

When Churchill, in 1940, briefed the infant SOE to "set Europe ablaze" he did not have in mind such *coups* as that of Walter Fletcher, who towards the end of the war refreshed the Allies' treasury by some £77 million through working the Chinese black market and similar prestidigitations. He had in mind, for example, what Fletcher's colleagues proved well able to do – raise, arm and train guerrilla groups behind the enemy lines. Yet there was constant pressure to transfer guerrillas to the army and concentrate SOE on intelligence-gathering.

When the Japaese collapse set in SOE, having survived a rough passage, was organized in sufficient strength to be able to strike with effect against the retreating enemy as 14th Army advanced from Mandalay to Rangoon. With typical honesty Slim, having sought to eject SOE, paid tribute to this effort. But Mr Cruickshank has been frank: taking the war as a whole, he believes that, better handled, SOE would have made a far more significant contribution. The verdict stands.

Ronald Lewin





THE TIMES DIARY

Forcing the pace

The campaign for electoral reform may become more lively if the Fawcett Society decides to join the rather sleepy organizations now making the case for proportional representation. The society is a direct descendant of the National Union for Women's Suffrage which earlier in the century used dramatic techniques to draw attention to its cause. More recently the Fawcett Society helped to draft the Equal Pay and Sex Discrimination Acts, and its chief interest in electoral reform is that it may allow more women to achieve office. Whether the society joins the reformers or not will depend on the outcome of a committee meeting in two weeks' time.

Snoopy, bach

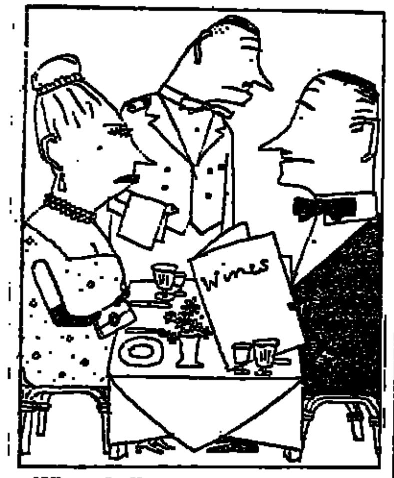
Snoopy, scourge of the Red Baron, *has just acquired the ability to speak* Welsh. *The* decision by Cardiff publisher Gwasg y Dref Wen to translate two of the books into the old tongue means that Snoopy can now bark in 23 languages, including Serbo-Croat, Chinese and Latin. In Welsh *That's how it goes, Snoopy* has become *Fel na mae, Snwpi*, and *The Ferocity of Snoopy* is now *Ffyrnigrwydd Snwpi*. The Welshmen maintain it is only natural justice, for according to them America was discovered by Prince Madoc decades before Christopher Columbus was born.

● The Hotel Norwich, in Norwich, has put aside a wing for guests who snore. Strong snorers earn discounts and anyone with the so-called "*Krakatoa rating*" *pays half price.*

In the pink

The sumptuous treatment on Channel 4 of her best selling *The Far Pavilions* will not give M. M. Kaye quite the same thrill as her first sight of a cake made to celebrate the book's publication. The cake was made in Jaipur at a party for those embarked on a *Far Pavilions* tour which formed part of the launching jamboree. The cook had fashioned a replica of the book's cover. "Unfortunately", said Miss Kaye, "he had managed to get hold of the American paperback version published by Bantam. This bore the legend, 'Special introductory price: 95 cents', and guessing that the word 'special' was very relevant to the book, he had picked out the entire slogan in raised pink icing. I took it as a great compliment, which was what was intended."

BARRY FANTONI



"What shall we celebrate with, dear – champagne or a pot of tea?"

OK, Guv?

The appointment of Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam as Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of Mauritius entailed less manoeuvring than went on over the appointment of Sir Len Williams to the same post after Mauritius became independent in 1967. Sir John Rennie, the island's governor, had hoped to be appointed after the first post-independence general election was held. But before the election the British Labour government sent out John Stonehouse who decided that the constituency boundaries needed changing. When they were, the Mauritian Labour Party won the election. Its choice for Governor-General was Len Williams, general secretary of the British Labour Party. For some reason, the Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, hesitated in making the appointment. While it was still awaiting his signature, the political journalist Walter Terry broke the story. Len Williams threatened to call a press conference to explain the delay and was immediately appointed before he could make good his threat.

Slicing the pie

Robert Carrier has just sliced a quarter of a million pounds off the asking price of his Suffolk mansion, Hintlesham Hall, which in 11 years he changed from a dilapidated ruin into a magnificent restaurant, cookery school and home, from £750,000 to £500,000. Hampton, the agent, says it is confident of an early sale.

End game

As the final of the world chess championship draws near, Bobby Fischer, the American who won in Iceland 12 years ago, continues to live in cheap hotels in Pasadena, California, under assumed names. He turns down million-dollar offers to play matches and survives mainly on royalty cheques from the chess books he has written. Friends say that Fischer believes he may be under Soviet surveillance and is a possible target for a KGB assassination attempt.

PHS

Falklands: a half-measure solution

by Sir Philip Goodhart

"Today brings new hope to your country," said Mrs Thatcher in a message of goodwill to Raúl Alfonsin, when he assumed the presidency of Argentina. "Where there's a will, there's a way", replied the new president. But the problem of the sovereignty of the Falklands remains.

There can be no doubt of President Alfonsin's personal commitment on sovereignty. During General Galtieri's invasion of the Falkland Islands, Raúl Alfonsin described the operation as "an illegitimate act by an illegal government in a just cause". On the day that he took office President Alfonsin declared: "Our undeniable object is, and will always be, the regaining of the islands and the definitive confirmation of the right of our nation to its sovereign territory." Meanwhile, our Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary have made it plain, in public and in private, that the sovereignty of the Falklands is not negotiable.

One of the guests at President Alfonsin's inauguration was President Belaunde Terry of Peru. The Peruvians have shown some interest in the concept of a partitioned sovereignty for the Falklands. They have noted that inhabitants of the Falklands are largely concentrated in the East Falklands, while the West Falklands and the adjoining islets are almost entirely uninhabited. Partition would involve the abandonment of the Argentine claim to sovereignty over the East Falklands, while we would accept Argentine claims to sovereignty over the West Falklands.

The basis for this suggestion of a partitioned sovereignty is simple enough. No British government could lightly abandon the Falkland Islanders, and no Argentine government can drop its national claim to the islands. Both countries have invested too much emotional capital in the islands to give any credibility to legal haggling over old claims and counterclaims.

Clearly, the arrival of Argentine forces to occupy the West Falklands would add to the problems and the dangers in the South Atlantic, but in an interview that he gave to *The Observer*, President Alfonsin revived the idea of a leaseback, and any recognition of Argentine sovereignty over the West Falklands would have to be accompanied by a leaseback arrangement for a transition period. At some time during that transition period, the Argentine flag could be flown in the West Falklands, or West Malvinas, and a handful of Argentine administrators could be added to the very small staff needed to oversee the empty island.

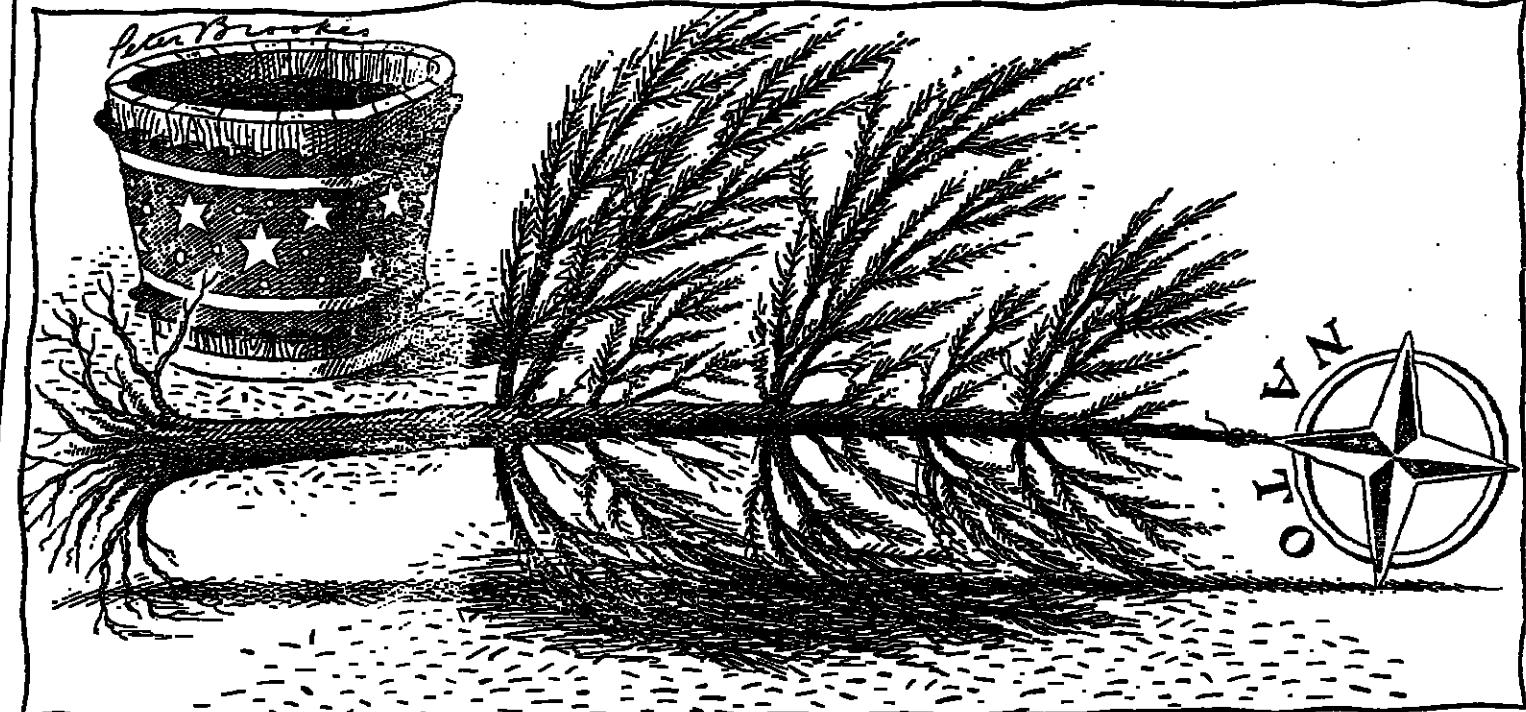
In order to ensure that some future Argentine government did not use a partition agreement as a springboard for renewed claims to the rest of the Falklands, the British government could ask President Alfonsin's administration to put any agreement to the Argentine people in a referendum, in order to show that it was acceptable to the majority and not just to one set of ministers. In France, in 1961 and 1962, two referendums effectively removed the Algerian issue from French politics, and an Argentine referendum on the Falklands might have a similar stabilizing impact.

The division of sovereignty, combined with temporary leaseback of the western half of the islands, could then provide a platform for negotiations about fishing rights and mineral rights under the sea – matters that can properly be settled by negotiation, while the issue of sovereignty cannot.

Under the heading "Moral of the Work", Winston Churchill wrote at the beginning of his *History of the Second World War*: "In war: Resolution. In Defeat: Defiance. In Victory: Magnanimity. In Peace: Goodwill." President Alfonsin's inauguration marks the final victory of Mrs Thatcher over the junta. British discussion of the concept of a partitioned sovereignty for the Falklands could be interpreted as a gesture of magnanimity and goodwill.

The author is Conservative MP for Beckenham.

Frederick Bonnart on the need to stop the transatlantic drift



Nato's New Year task: restoring its crumbling unity

Brussels

The American medium-range missiles have begun to arrive in Europe: the protest movements have registered their objections without too great an effect; the Soviet Union has conceded defeat by walking out of arms control negotiations. At their year-end meeting, Nato's foreign ministers could have been celebrating. Instead, a creeping concern is now evident in the alliance.

At the suggestion of Leo Tindemans, the Foreign Minister of Belgium, the Nato Council decided to review its policies towards the East and determine a common line of action. The permanent representatives of Nato member countries will meet next Wednesday to start the process and are due to submit their suggestions to the foreign ministers' next meeting, in Washington, this May. Ministers were, however, sharply divided about the usefulness of the exercise; the proposal has shown up some awkward stresses in the alliance.

Most of the European allies, believing they cannot afford to let confrontation solidify into a permanent ice pack, say immediate action is needed. Acutely aware of the anxieties of western public opinion, they expect pressure from their parliaments on this. Others, particularly the United States, maintain the alliance must do nothing to reward the Soviet Union for walking out of the negotiations. US sources point out that there is a danger of the allies being made to look ridiculous and weak by too eagerly seeking accommodation. They considered the report unlikely to break much new ground but agreed to go along with the proposal, albeit with caution.

One cause of the present uneasiness is that while arms-control negotiations were continuing, senior US officials maintained almost permanent contact with their allies, with monthly, later fortnightly briefings and consultation at Nato and in several capitals, on the progress of the negotiations, which resulted in a cohesive foreign policy approach. But with the arms negotiations at a halt, this intimate consultation process has also ceased. Once again Europe and the US are in danger of drifting apart on their different attitudes to the East.

The planned review, which aims to build a framework within which Nato, and individual countries, would decide on a consistent attitude, will begin by analysing the reasons for the failure of the negotiations. It will try to determine the misconceptions the Soviet leadership has about the West and, to clear up alliance errors about the Soviet Union and other Eastern bloc countries.

An obvious possible future venue for negotiation is the Stockholm conference on confidence-building measures, due to start on January 17. There are others, such as the United Nations Committee for Disarmament, still meeting regularly in Geneva, and the United Nations itself in New York. The review will also make contingency plans for joint attitudes and action for unforeseen developments such as the crises over Afghanistan and Poland.

The timing is vital, in view of the effect of the run-up to the presidential election in the United States, on both the US and Soviet positions. European officials believe that the American public at present supports direct action such as that in Grenada; Europeans are therefore wary of electioneering language which may have uncalculated fall-out in the Kremlin.

Senior Nato officials consider that the leadership problem in the Soviet Union will result in a cautious but rigid Soviet attitude.

Though it is thought that the Soviet Union is seriously worried about its relations with the US, the Brezhnev era with its "detente" symbol is definitely over; there will be little capacity for compromise. The Soviet armed forces and their backers in the Kremlin may exercise a veto power over proposals for halting or reducing their own missile deployment and it would need strong political leadership, which may be absent now, to overcome this. There is also so much antipathy in the Kremlin to the Reagan administration that Soviet leaders will not want to help his campaign by presenting him with a foreign policy success. Nato analysts believe that the Russians tend to take a long-term view and prefer to move slowly; they therefore consider that any major change before the US elections in November is very unlikely.

The review of Nato policy is intended to cover this gap. It will point out once more the defensive nature of allied military preparations and, at the same time, emphasize the genuine desire for a stable relationship with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. As well as the aims of reducing the Soviet feeling of insecurity and simultaneously reassuring western people while missile deployment continues, there is a third purpose. The review will try to ensure that the allied cohesion gained by the close consultation process during the arms control negotiations is not now lost.

Strumming up support for a change in the law

Bongo Mike and Extremely Frank Jeremy (BA Cantab) were doing their thing one sunny afternoon in Antwerp – as they had done in Maastricht, Lucerne, Lille, Dortmund and Dalston in their day – when a European type approached them. "Pliss", he said. "Vair are you fromm?"

Their reply was standard: "We come from London, but we don't represent England." If the hapless Continental had possessed the English or the stamina to stay the course, he would have learned why. "We had made a decision", as they write in an 11-page paper on their lives, times and philosophy of situation art, "that we would no longer pretend to our European audiences . . . that we were anything other than exiles from our own country.

"In England, where we started our careers as street poets and later street musicians, we were criminals with a criminal record. Our crime is making people happy."

Now Mr Michael Kay and Mr Jeremy Helm hope to convene a meeting of others of their kind to plan a campaign of militant action against the forces of law and order that drove them into exile.

Such activism came to seem logical after an application to have their case heard by the European Commission of Human Rights in Strasbourg was rejected last year. Plans for 1984 could include gathering petitions, disrupting Greater London Council or London Transport meetings with musical protests, and possibly taking further legal action in the Council of Europe.

The European Commission's findings on the buskers' allegations of police harassment note that Mr Kay and Mr Helm, who recently changed the name of their act from "Gutter Music by the Dossers" to "The Dissident Buskers", have suffered from "the criminalization of their professional activities in England by virtue of by-laws and legislation prohibiting obstruction of the highway or trespass (railways, underground)".

The Commission concluded, however, that the applicants had not "substantiated their claim that they are 'outlawed', having managed to avoid serious confrontation with the police and prosecution for some years by their mobility"; nor had they presented convincing evidence of "severe ill-treatment" or discrimination by state authorities as defined under various articles of the relevant convention.

Enforcement of the obstruction laws under which buskers most often face prosecution is usually at police discretion. Until relatively recently, the Dissidents write, "a degree of tolerance was exercised by police on the street which allowed professional buskers to operate legally despite their uncertain legal status.



Mike and Frank: from Dossers to Dissidents but still officially on the criminal fringe

"But tolerance is a dangerous thing: a change in social climate or a different hand on the reins of power and the tolerance can be withdrawn, leaving those who were merely tolerated with no protection from the logical consequences of the law."

Bongo Mike and Jeremy have a great deal more to say on the subject of situation art, high versus low culture, and the like. I have known them for a year now, and I still have no idea whether they are entirely serious or whether their occasional pomposity and studied idiosyncrasy are really an elaborate send-up of the conventional world they have so uproariously rejected.

Do they really mean it, for example, when they write: "Each performance situation is surrounded by certain particular archetypes: the lesser artist remains imprisoned by them, the greater artist rises above them"? And is the average busker's day really conducive to rumination on "the oriental concept of 'freedom from opposites'", entailing "freedom from the parcelling up by mankind of his enviroment along rigidly dualistic lines of distinction . . . "? Is an alleged gap between "high" and "low" culture indeed "the most socially disastrous polarity of all those generated by the dualistic, fragementary tendency in society"? A more realistic polarity, if polarity there must be, is between the likes of Bongo Mike and Extremely Frank Jeremy, who are indisputably professional artists, however unorthodox, and the newer breed of "busker", usually on the young side and often a music student, strumming round the Underground for pin money or performing by appointment in Covent Garden.

If nothing else, a recorded anthology of street music to be issued by Risk It records in February ought to advance their cause, whatever that may be. Theirs is the title track: *It's a Crime* (to play music in the streets). Meanwhile, Bongo Mike notes wryly, foreign-language pamphlets designed by the British Tourist Authority to entice overseas visitors to London feature a sketch of a busker on the cover.

Tony Samstag

Phillip Whitehead

Why I grieve for Leonard Arthur

Some deaths clutch at the heart. On Christmas Day died one of the finest men I have ever known. Leonard Arthur had faced, in rapid succession, the two worst ordeals a medical man could endure. He had been in the dock, charged with the attempted murder of one of the handicapped children to whom he had devoted his life. Eighteen months later, he discovered that he had a brain tumour, and was to be the fully-conscious witness of his own slow decline.

All this he bore with fortitude, even serenity. It would be worth recording for a public which heard of his death only in the sensational tones of the tabloid front pages – "Down's Case Baby Doctor Dead."

But it is his life I want to remember before the pressure group Life took a hand. Leonard Arthur could have been many things after he qualified at the Middlesex Hospital. He could have risen in consultancy or teaching in the metropolis. He had married the daughter of the eminent neurologist, Lord Brain; such a couple could have stayed close to the glittering prizes. Instead, they chose service far afield. As a national service medical officer during the Korean war, he volunteered for front-line service. He worked for a time in Nigeria. Then the Arthurs settled in the Derbyshire village of Church Broughton, raised their six children, and became part of that small army of permanent volunteers which keeps rural society on the march.

Dr Arthur, consultant paediatrician, entered the lives of many thousands of children stricken by disease or handicap. He never left them.

He was the very model of what the National Health Service should be, humane, tenacious, principled.

These three qualities shone through his work. He knew the dangers of size and remoteness. He knew that the volunteer can sometimes inspire the parts of a health service which bureaucrats cannot reach. So you came upon him, as I first did, late at night launching some new group based on felt need – readers and teachers for dyslexic children, riding lessons for the handicapped, social clubs for parents under extreme stress. He knew that for the human face of medicine, a community must turn its own features to the glass. He was tenacious in his fight for resources, human and material.

When some colleagues flagged, seeing the Derbyshire district treated, in NHS priorities, as the fringe of a fringe, he persuaded them to stay on. How else, he argued, would the imbalances ever be removed?

Above all, he knew there could never be a *National* Health Service without universality, suffused with altruism. So he led by example. His world was the clinic, not the consulting room. He took no private patients, gave no thought to the "market value" of his exceptional gifts. He wanted everyone to have the best that could be provided, on the basis of need. There are still thousands like him, happy to ignore the new world of market values. But it was his fate to be singled out as the focus of a court case which went to the very heart of medical ethics.

The Arthur case made legal history. The man who had helped so many victims of handicap was linked with just one, newborn, abandoned by its parents, severely handicapped and grievously sick, for whom he was alleged to have prescribed "nursing care only". From accusations by an anonymous informer to Life, Dr Arthur was taken to Leicester Crown Court to answer, not just for himself but for the awesome responsibilities of his profession. Those who sought the case were not moved by the bewilderment and anger of the thousands of disabled people he had treated, nor did they accept his acquittal.



Leonard Arthur: compassion was all

It cannot have been easy for them to square the reality of the serene defendant – secure in his Christian faith, and the knowledge that even with hindsight he would not have done otherwise – with the pillory they had hoped to prepare.

In that 18-day court ordeal, Dr Arthur, ironically, won national respect and admiration. When the trial was over, he put it behind him and returned to work at the Derby Children's Hospital to universal approbation. And yet, perhaps, it was not quite over. The strain still sat in his face, in his transparency of feature. Last year, before the trees were in leaf, there came upon him the first numbing indications that he would never see another spring.

The unsparing frankness and care which he had given to so many of his patients he now had to apply to his own, well-understood, prognosis.

His life, foreshortened, was still fiercely lived on all levels. I saw him as the months passed, sombre in the firelight at musical evenings; unfamiliar under the hat that replaced his vanished hair at an election meeting in June, but still recognizable by his rapt attention; holding court in his wheelchair at concerts and Labour Party socials. He would even turn up in his wheelchair to help at the hospital. He died, still in faith and hope, on Christmas Day.

We buried him by the door of his parish church. His Quaker wife and his six children sang a roundsong by the open grave, while the congregation of hundreds, some of them handicapped, filed out into the bright day.

That was their tribute. This is mine. Leonard Arthur had to stand trial for the conscience of his profession. In death he can serve as an exemplar of the very highest traditions of the NHS. He stands for the men and women like him who keep the principle of a free and comprehensive health service alive at this bleak time. At his funeral, his brother-in-law, Canon Edward Longman, asked us to remember him, either in silence or in speech. In the silence, a very young baby cried, lustily. No better trumpet could have carried Leonard Arthur to the other side.

The author was Labour MP for Derby, North, 1970-83.

John P. Harris

How I shall rue our street names

Near Clermont l'Herault

The locals are delighted. Not me, though. The news has come round that we are going to have street names. The municipal council (nine members, thus 11 per cent of the population) spent most of their last meeting surrounded by different samples of name plates, adjourning at a deadlock – three councillors for each of the three tendencies: elegant sobriety, multicoloured gaiety, and austere economy. Later on they will have to choose the names, which should keep them going for many a winter evening.

There isn't really any hurry. From the middle ages up until about 1930 the population of the village, halfway between Montpellier and Béziers, was around 200. They got on perfectly well without street names. Now we're down to 80 . . . but you can't stop progress. We have neon street lighting, main drainage and a GIVE WAY sign where the avenue of plane trees joins the very minor road leading somewhere else, so street names had to come.

It's easy to see what will happen.

"Euh, *pardon, Madame*, I'm looking for the *rue du 4 Janvier*".

"Well, you've got the wrong village, young man. This is Saint-Fulcran-de-Fobis, and you want Saint-Fulcran-de-Pouzolles. It's round the other side of the hill. Just follow that road . . . ."

That is a familiar dialogue here. The other Saint-Fulcran is a great big *agglomération* of 300 inhabitants, with street names since 1960. Great big names too: airmen and men of letters. You go down the Boulevard Saint-Exupéry, six houses long and just wide enough for a delivery van to scratch both its sides generously, to choose among the Avenue Louis Blériot, the Impasse Jean Racine and the rue Marcel Proust, the other end of which is a madeleine's throw from the Place Jean Mermoz. (A really well-thrown madeleine would sail across the Place, go down the Avenue Gustave Flaubert and land well inside the postman's vineyard.)

Of course, no one ever *uses* those names. The only people who seem aware of them are observant visitors. People go on living, as they have always done, opposite the post office or behind the church.

But we, in the other Saint-Fulcran, are only too used to the puzzled inquiries of salesmen and debt-collectors who have stopped at the wrong village . . . .

"No, no, madame, it really is Saint-Fulcran-de-Fobis I want. Henri Poujol, number one, rue – "

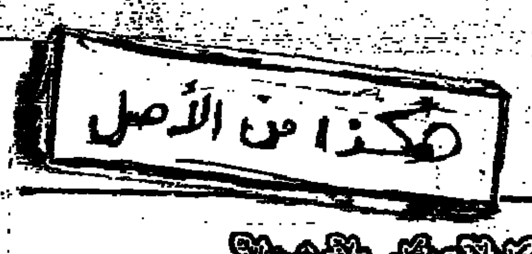
"Oh well, why didn't you say so? You go down the road to the cemetery, turn right just before the *pétanque* pitch, and Henri's is the first house on the left, the one with the fossilized giant oysters round the door. You can't go wrong."

So *la petite Place* will remain *la petite Place*, when we need to distinguish it from *la grande Place* (as for example when the mobile butcher has stopped his van there because *la grande Place* has been totally occupied by two parked cars). But what will curious strangers see on the name plates – *Place de l'Eglise* or *Place de la Marie*? Or, to remain neutral in the still-lively lay/clerical battle, *Place de la Cabine Téléphonique*?

I'm a bit of a snob about this. In the days when Nancy Mitford was writing about U and non-U I learnt that the best address (unless of course one was The MacBitch of MacBitch) had the form: J. Smith Esq., Thing Hall, Thing. But personally I prefer the essential U-ness of The Archbishop, Canterbury, or Mr R. M. Khomeini, Qom, and for the last six years I've enjoyed similar stark arrogance. (In this article I've disguised the name of the village. Complaints, fan letters, gifts etc should be sent c/o *The Times* – quite a U-address still.)

Nemesis after hubris, soon I shall be in la rue Something? No. 1? Perhaps a mere No. 2, for there are two houses in my street. I can't even hope for the Promenade des Anglais, because Madame Vidal and her daughter have lived next door for 85 and 67 years respectively, and you might say it's their street.

Of course I shan't tell my correspondents the name, whatever it turns out to be. It would only puzzle the postman.



TIMES PAST THE TIMES

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PRESSURES OF WELFARE

When the rain comes down, it should be no surprise to see everyone in sight struggling to get their umbrellas up. The world-wide deluge of recession has naturally caused most countries to experience strains of adjustment which have much in common with each other. But most countries, and Britain more than most, find it too easy to overlook the common factors, and regard the experience as a crisis peculiar to themselves – a phenomenon connected with Thatcherism or the demoralization of the Labour Party, and not just one variation on a broader theme. But it is worth noting that the umbrellas have been going up all over Europe, because their condition and colour, and the relative efficiency with which they unfold, may be informative about the nature of the downpour, and the best means of minimizing the drenching.

It is common knowledge that high unemployment and alarms about inflation and controlling public expenditure have been general in Europe, and indeed in the developed world, since the late seventies. Time of onset and vigour of response have of course differed from country to country, but it is striking how closely our own experience has paralleled that in a number of neighbouring countries. And last year in a cluster of general elections, in Britain, West Germany and Norway (with another election in Denmark likely to be added to the series later this month), the electorates have endorsed an approach to social and economic policy that we might in our provincial way identify as Thatcherite.

In Holland and Belgium, governments of the centre-right, determined to act against inflation, have met and weathered concerted challenges from public sector unions (claiming more or less seriously to be striking in defence of welfare standards) of a kind that has often been predicted here since 1979, but never materialized even when the health workers' dispute of 1982 provided what might have appeared a perfect opportunity.

The simplest, though possibly the profoundest, lesson to be drawn from all this is that once again it appears that voters in mature democracies will accept a convincingly-argued case from their leaders that painful policies are required. There are minor signs of political polarization in some of the countries concerned, but essentially the pain of adaptation has not yet threatened the system, as a comparable shock might well have done in regimes not based on consent.

Welfare provision has been the most painful area for the scaling down of public expectations. Once the mirage of limitless economic growth dissolved, some such shock became inevitable. A recent OECD paper showed that since 1960 public expenditure on pensions, health, education and other income maintenance rose almost twice as fast as GDP in member countries – pensions being by far the most costly component. In West Germany, one of the the highest spenders of all, the general election set the seal of the voters' acceptance on a sharp reversal in the welfare policies of a century, accomplished by the Christian Democrats but initiated by their Social Democrat predecessors.

The urgency of the crisis tends to confuse the straightforward alignments of left and right. There is a symbolic aspect to the fact that even the Social Democratic government of Sweden, the country where public social provision perhaps reached its zenith, was forced before Christmas to abandon its election promises and introduce an emergency budget cutting pensions in real terms, raising patients' contributions to health costs and removing most food subsidies. The Socialist government in France (where the worst effects of recession are only now beginning to be apparent, and where state welfare provision has traditionally been limited) learned at an early stage to limit its commitments to lame ducks and come down hard on wage inflation.

The British Government's cuts in social provision are relatively modest in the context of what some of our neighbours have done. That is partly because we have less to cut. Total public welfare spending in Britain, as in the United States, is among the lowest in Western industrialized nations. It represented less than 20 per cent of our GDP at the end of the 1970s, compared with over 30 per cent in Sweden, the Netherlands and Denmark. And while the Scandinavian countries, West Germany, the United States (and above all Japan) face acute problems in the near future because the number of pensioners is rising faster than the number of productive workers, Britain has already coped with the worst of its "bulge" of dependents for this century. The baleful projections of last year's "Think Tank" report owed as much to its assumptions about defence spending as to its forecasts of actual social need.

Public spending is irredeemably difficult to hold in check, of course. Our crisis may not involve as painful an adjustment as some others, but it still warrants serious and frank examination. Politicians of all parties have an interest in dramatizing the significance of what happens at home, in tones either of triumph or outrage. They find it more profitable to have slanging matches over today's expenditure than over that of tomorrow, which may never come, or may come when the other fellow is in office. For all its display of resolution over welfare spending, the Government has been hesitant about laying down the principles on which it wants to see policies made in future. The result is a curious effect of apocalyptic procrastination.

A study is now promised into the implications of low growth and high unemployment on prospects for pensions and welfare. But what is needed is not so much facts as clearer political priorities. It is not difficult to say what we want, but very difficult indeed to point avenues towards implementing one slogan without moving away from another. The burden on state expenditure can be lightened, but at what cost in heavier burdens on individuals and industry, through insurance contributions? Consumer choice can be improved, but probably only by increasing the burden of welfare on the productive economy. A drive to greater cost-effectiveness is not necessarily compatible with the maintenance either of choice or equity, and is a somewhat artificial exercise while we are unable to put a price on health as such. Which objectives should come first?

There is a worrying side to the spectacle of European electorates endorsing welfare cuts so easily. The majority everywhere is healthy, solvent and relatively fortunate. Of course the majority foresees that it may one day need to make calls on social provision for the less fortunate, so that self-interest as well as idealism gives a motive to accept social expenditure. But when treasury departments are looking for instant savings to balance bung led budgets, the temptation in the absence of clear principles of policy is to snatch at what comes easiest and causes least protest.

It is those with unspectacular afflictions, the chronic sick, the lonely and the ugly who may be most easily overlooked, and whose dependence on aid may be the greatest. Identifying ethical priorities and securing society's endorsement of them is the task of political leadership. Otherwise the course of social policy is not directed, but simply happens. Since Beveridge, in a period mostly buoyant, social policy in Britain has to a great extent simply happened. In a time of hard choices, that is no longer enough.

ON THE ONE HAND BUT NOT ON THE OTHER

The Soviet leaders would like to proceed with their dual policy of encouraging disruptive peace demonstrations in the West while crushing all unofficial actions in their own domain. Several of the members of the *Moscow Group to Establish Trust* have been imprisoned or exiled. Their contacts with Western groups provide little protection, as was shown yet again by the recent arrest of Mrs Olga Medvedkova on the absurd charge of assaulting a policeman.

In Eastern Europe the authorities have more difficult problems to contend with. In his New Year address Mr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, said that the deployment of Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe had brought "probably the most dangerous period of postwar development", but Protestant pastors and Roman Catholic priests have urged their parishioners not to sign government petitions which ask workers to express their welcome for the Soviet missiles, which are being installed in retaliation, by promising to work an extra day every month to help pay for them. Exiling or imprisoning individual protestors is more tricky since the unofficial "Swords into Ploughshares" movement is supported by the established churches. Nevertheless, the regime continues its attempts at repression. Last month a New Zealand CND member working in Britain who visited the East Berlin group called Women for Peace was arrested on the border but released after diplomatic protests. The homes of those she visited were ransacked by police and four members of the peace group were detained.

In Czechoslovakia even government spokesmen have seemed reluctant to accept the basing of Soviet intermediate nuclear weapons in their country. The Prime Minister, Mr Lubomir Strougal, said that the decision was "forced in the interest of the nation's defence capability". In November about twenty members of the Charter-77 human rights movement were taken into police custody and threatened with ten-year prison terms for subversion should they protest against the missiles. Charter-77 protested in a letter to the Czechoslovak leaders that their support for Western peace movements now seemed "not an expression of esteem for civil responsibility but exploitation of a tool used only to weaken the other side". An appeal to peace protesters in the West, signed also by Rudolf Battek and Ladislav Lis, the Charter-77 spokesmen now in prison, emphasized that the fight for peace could not be separated from the general struggle for human rights.

A petition condemning the deployment of Soviet missiles in Czechoslovakia is reported to have gained widespread support, especially among young people; in Brno alone a thousand signatures were collected. The official party daily *Rude Pravo* has admitted receiving many letters from worried readers. Copies of a protest sent to the party leadership by 24 factory workers were sent to the West. They object strongly to the further installation of nuclear missiles on Czechoslovak territory and also demand the immediate dismantling of all similar missiles already deployed there.

The workers protest at falling living standards caused partly by the military budget, but they deny that expenditure on arms can be blamed on the West because "it was the Soviet Union that began with the deployment of SS missiles although it is not threatened by anyone". On previous evidence it will be the peace protesters who will be under the greatest threat.

Catholics in China

From the Very Reverend Canon J. Crozier

Sir, Referring to the Church in China (December 20) David Bonavia writes: "relations with Catholics in China are blocked by the Vatican's refusal to recognize the Peking-appointed hierarchy, which denies its authority. This is a consequence of Rome's continued relations with the Church in Taiwan".

The Peking hierarchy is the Patriotic Association formally established by the Communist government in July, 1957. Forty-two bishops were ordained in this schismatic church. Few priests and lay persons joined this organization, which was condemned by Pius XII in 1958. The Church in Taiwan however is in full communion with Rome.

With regard to the Catholic hierarchy of China, some are prisoners of conscience, others are in exile. Typical members are Ignatius Kung, SJ, Bishop of Shanghai, and Dominic Tang, SJ, Bishop of Canton. They were arrested in 1958 and, without trial or sentence, imprisoned.

Towards the end of his term, in 1980, the senior police officer asked Bishop Tang: "What is your attitude to the Papacy?" He simply answered: "No Pope, no Catholic Church." The officer reported that the Bishop was a good man but politically confused. He was released but told he was no longer considered the Bishop of Canton.

In the year Dominic Tang was ordained Bishop, Mother Teresa founded her order of missionaries. They are of an age, and radiate the same cheerful serenity founded in a deep Christian faith. While he languished in the Canton prisons for 22 years, seven in solitary confinement, she was toiling in the slums of Calcutta, carrying her mission of charity to India and the world.

Yours faithfully,
J. CROZIER,
1 Radley Road,
Abingdon,
Oxfordshire.
December 21.

LI… HE EDITOR

Spending by local agreement

From the Leader of Sheffield City Council

Sir, In your leaders of December 17 and 21 you once again warn the Government of the folly of their proposals to take powers to directly determine the levels of expenditure, quality of services and budgets of local authorities. The consistent stand taken by *The Times* on this issue is to be warmly welcomed and would be ignored with folly by the Cabinet.

However, with the publication of the Bill, it is equally dangerous for any hint to be given that, whilst the general principle of removing local democracy and the power of people to determine their own needs and services at a local level is sacrosanct, it can be justified against what the Secretary of State described on a recent television broadcast as "the loony authorities", whose political complexion is undesirable.

This notion that there are "acceptable" and "unacceptable" political opinions within our democratic framework is not only worrying but extremely dangerous. If removing local democracy within our pluralistic state is itself undesirable, then equally it must be so for those "selected" councils whose historic needs and level of rates places them in the Secretary of State's "hit list".

If this were not true, then democracy would not depend on the voting habits of the local or national electorate but on the acceptability of the outcome to those who wish to retain power in their own hands.

This doctrine, which has led dictatorships across the world to justify their actions, leads governments to believe that their overall objective is more important than the means by which they obtain them.

On a purely pragmatic level it is absurd nonsense to believe that there are a group of local authorities whose non-adherence to good advice from the centre has put them beyond the pale and whose actions place them in a category outside the normal bounds of reasonableness.

It is a simple fact that for most authorities on the Secretary of State's "unacceptable" selective list no rate increase at all would be necessary from April, 1984, if it were not for the "hold back" penalty system which is intended to bludgeon the local electorate into rejecting those councils putting forward a programme based on no cuts in services or substantial job losses.

There is, therefore, one simple answer to the question of high rate increases. It is to remove the penalty system altogether and allow the interplay of market forces and the democratic accountable electoral system to take their course.

Yours sincerely,
D. BLUNKETT, Leader,
Sheffield City Council,
Leader's Office,
Town Hall,
Sheffield.
December 21.

Heard to be done

From the Director General of the International Hospital Federation

Sir, I can well believe Mr Daly's claim (December 30) that the rates charged by members of his International Association of Conference Interpreters (AIIC) are between 15 and 30 times higher than Italian court rates.

Generally speaking, the quality of AIIC interpreters is certainly good, but I hope Mr Daly may ponder whether his trade union is not in danger of pricing itself out of the market with the very high rates that it charges, plus expenses for travel and accommodation.

I know that these extremely high charges either deter some international organizations from providing simultaneous translation at all (particularly for smaller meetings where the cost cannot be spread among a high number of fee-paying registrants) or encourage them to look for help elsewhere than from AIIC members.

Yours faithfully,
MILES HARDIE, Director General,
International Hospital Federation,
126 Albert Street, NW1.
December 30.

Educating lawyers

From Mr Charles P. Reed

Sir, The thrust of Roger Scruton's article, "Laying down the law" (December 20), is reminiscent of Sir Walter Scott's famous observation: "A lawyer without history or literature is a mere working mason; if he possesses some knowledge of these, he may venture to call himself an architect." (*Guy Mannering*).

Mr Scruton argues for a broader education for our potential judges (the barristers), embracing something more than the mere study and practice of law. In this way he believes that the "creative genius" of judges in untying the knots of human conflict will be boosted.

Perhaps. However, I would suggest that a more practical and likely method of achieving this laudable aim would be to broaden the pool fro… chosen.

Mr Scruton … ment of solic… lack of de… interests of … going into … contention. … alternative g… combine an e… an awareness … mic/quasi-pol… most mode… through the… other discipli… academics, i.e… teachers of la…

Their resea… them with a … blinkered as t… of law. I ca… distinguished … not be eligibl… the House of …

…pacity, since it is in this court of …t resort that the policy decisions …st be made in the "hard cases" … those in which there is no …ally correct decision to the matter …issue).

Consequently, experience of the …nflicts of the courtroom is not …ential: what is required is a …ailed knowledge of the law, plus …t indefinable "sense of justice" …common sense?) which Mr …uton believed was most likely to … found in those barristers with a …owledge of the history and …rature of their country. I believe …an be found on the shelves of the … library.

…urs sincerely,
…ARLES P. REED,
…ghtham House,
…thersden Close,
…kenham,
…nt.

Clerics and Namibia

From Sir Trevor Lloyd-Hughes

Sir, Ronald Butt's thoughtful article about the relationship of Christianity to politics (December 22) prompts me to suggest that clerics really would advance the lot of mankind – and perhaps attract more people into their churches – if they addressed themselves more to theological teaching and the fundamentals of faith, about which they should be well informed and have much to offer, and less to pronouncements on military, economic and political matters, about which they are too often only partially instructed or abysmally ignorant.

I refer in particular to the recent visit to Namibia by five Anglican bishops and Mr Terry Waite, personal assis… of Canterbury… visit is still a… has meanwhil… ised and un… atrocities aga… territory by … Namibian for… the country … terror raids … that make the… IRA bomb pa…

This is not … churchmen … acts of violen… African Defe… their black s… tioning the … harming civil… SWADF oper… soldiers foun… those orders … and punished…

…s of terror – including murder, …duction and the indiscriminate …ing of landmines on dirt tracks – …actised by Swapo.

Have clergy visiting Namibia …died SWADF's standing orders, …cked the stories they have been …d, reported "evidence" to allow …per investigation by the auth…ties, or studied the "law of war" … these complex situations?

…ave they checked Swapo's …cities, or inquired whether …apo's marauding gangs operate …der a defined code of conduct, or … brought to trial for murder or …er terrorist acts committed inside …mibia's borders?

…urs sincerely,
…EVOR LLOYD-HUGHES,
…yd-Hughes Associates Ltd,
…0 Borough High Street, SE1.
…cember 22.

F… Eagle Star

Fro… Bo…

…mpany. A mutual insurance company is somewhat like a co-op. …ere is no reason why this could …t have been done by the board of …agle Star.

The life insurance and pension …nds are sufficiently large to have …ade this possible. One might …ention that the Norwich Union is … a similar size to Eagle Star and …as successfully mutualized long …o. It is now proof against takeover.

There is an additional reason for …ncern at the underlying fight for …gle Star. There is a prospect of a …fe insurance company being taken …er by a tobacco company. Can we …elieve in this event that non-…okers will be given fair terms for …eir life insurance premiums?

…ours faithfully,
…ATRICK CARROLL,
…he City University,
…orthampton Square, EC1.
…nuary 1.

…PETER…
House …
Decemb…

…rom Lord Moyne

…r, Besides the injustices of …keover bids condemned by the …eneral manager of Eagle Star in his …tter of December 31, there are …her aspects which can be criti…zed.

A close relative of mine who owns …ares in Eagle Star has moral …ruples against making money from …bacco, whether consumed in this …untry or across the Atlantic. She …ill be obliged to sell her shares and …ge her stake in this admirable …surance company.

Surely, Sir, the inevitable result of …ch takeover bidding is the creation … conglomerates in which share…olders lose all responsibility as they …e marched towards larger and …rger entities, ready to be taken …er, as Marx foretold, by the state… …hich could happen at the whim of … first-past-the-post electoral …ajority. The Conservative Party …ghtly emphasizes its concern for …all businesses, but appears supine … this issue.

The present drift by takeovers …wards huge disparate concerns is …rely politically unhealthy, quite …art from any question of mon…oly.

…ours faithfully,
…OYNE,
…ddesden House,
…ndover,
…ampshire.
…nuary 1.

Americ…

From Mr D…

Sir, Sir Alf… 12) disagre… Messrs Hea… the dangers … attacks on N… whether the… Owen really … wonders whe… have the sup… this issue.

As one me… only say that … Dr Owen … reports whic… out of Nicara… the impressio… to create.

These rep… Oxfam, Chr… UK-based re… gua, speak of… better since …

…gime, including, for example, a …amatic reduction in infant mor…lity, increased health-care pro…sion, a reduction in illiteracy …vels, and a rise in food-production …vels.

In these circumstances, it seems …terly appalling that the Reagan …ministration should be arming …d supporting the rebel groups, …ho are exacting a heavy toll in …nocent lives and damage to …operty.

It is a tragedy that the archaic …ctoral system in this country …ows the views of Sir Alfred to …evail in Government circles on …is issue, rather than the views of …e three opposition parties who …cured such a clear majority of the …tes at the last general election.

…ours faithfully,
… K. LOVE,
…Hood Road,
…est Wimbledon, SW20.
…ecember 19.

Classica…

From Mr Da…

Sir, Analysi… played in Lo… Albert, Roya… Elizabeth H… Smith Squar… that Beethov… top, has bee… place, with … performance … piano transc… Ronald Smith…

Mozart, … years, wins w… his Toy Symp… well with 40 … Dvorak mov… place with … again shining … played symph… times (first … at an Ern… Concert).

…Brahms Nos 2 and 3 were the …bject of "open rehearsals" at the …rbican, for which I have awarded …lf a point on each occasion. This …ings him sixth equal with Tchai…vsky – 27 apiece.

Mahler has dropped from fourth … eighth place with 21⅔ (two …pearances of the Adagietto only …m No 5).

Sibelius, out of the top ten for …me years, is back with 17, thanks … Simon Rattle's enterprising cycle … the South Bank in August. …ruckner comes tenth with 15, …llowed by Mendelssohn (14) and …ostakovich (13).

…ours faithfully,
…AVID CHESTERMAN,
… Shire Lane,
…orleywood,
…rtfordshire.
…nuary 1.

Clarification on Sellafield

From the Secretary of State for the Environment

Sir, Dr John Twidell (December 30) claims to find a contradiction in my statement to the House of Commons on December 21 about Sellafield.

There is no such contradiction. The National Radiological Protection Board has conducted an examination of all the possible routes by which people in the area could be exposed to the radioactivity washed up from the sea. They concluded that the radioactivity concerned posed no hazard "to the general population of the area".

When I used this phrase I meant, and I believe the House of Commons understood, people living and working in that part of West Cumbria. On the other hand, NRPB are concerned that if someone were to go on the beach *and* handle contaminated items then they could exceed the annual dose limit for the skin.

The time this would take would clearly depend on the level of radioactivity in the particular sample. In one case it would have been as short as 10 to 15 minutes and in other cases a few hours. But these particular exposures were easily avoidable and it was sensible to warn the public of the risk.

The published reports by the National Radiological Protection Board and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, which are freely available from those bodies, contain the numbers which Dr Twidell appears to be seeking.

Yours sincerely,
PATRICK JENKIN,
2 Marsham Street, SW1.
December 30.

Date of Crucifixion

From Mr J. Enoch Powell, MP for Down, South (Official Unionist Party)

Sir, Members of the Department of Metallurgy and Science of Materials at Oxford have determined (*The Times*, December 23) the date of the Crucifixion on the assumption of a lunar eclipse which appears to be mentioned in the report of Pontius Pilate to Tiberius, which M. R. James in printing it called "a late document".

Will they let us know (1) why they think the phenomenon is ignored in the synoptic gospels, which (apparently) report a 3-hour total *solar* eclipse, and (2) whether their essay is a fair specimen of the evaluation of evidence in their department?

I am, Sir, etc,
J. ENOCH POWELL,
House of Commons.
December 30.

Eleanor statuary

From Lady Alment

Sir, I must add my strong support to Dr Kahn (December 12) for the preservation and restoration of the historic Eleanor crosses and in particular for the one at Hardingstone, near Northampton. The top 1ft to 2ft of this cross has been missing for well over 30 years, yet detailed drawings exist of the complete cross as it was in 1820 in Baker's *Northamptonshire*, a copy of which is in the library of the Northamptonshire Record Society at Delapre Abbey.

If efforts are being made to restore the cross it would immeasurably add to its beauty if the top could be restored to its original design at the same time.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH ALMENT,
Winston House,
Boughton,
Northampton.
December 29.

Prosecution by stores

From Miss Ysobel M. Hale

Sir, When I was young and innocent, some 75 years ago, I was taught:
"He who prigs what isn't his'n,
When he's caught, he goes to prison."

It was as simple as that!

Yours faithfully,
YSOBEL M. HALE,
The Old Vicarage,
Moulsford,
Oxfordshire.
December 29.

Sobering thought

From Mr Raymond Durrant

Sir, In your editorial today (December 27) you say "... the car checks that the police have introduced in some areas are made under existing powers and do not infringe the ban on random testing".

However on the front page of the same issue of your paper you report that the Nottinghamshire police had breath-tested 2,337 motorists and that only 40 tests were positive.

Surely a "success" rate of less than 2 per cent must indicate that in reality random tests are being carried out or that the judgment of the Nottinghamshire police is in doubt?

Yours faithfully,
RAYMOND DURRANT,
195 Marshalswick Lane,
St Albans,
Hertfordshire.
December 27.

Future imperfect

From Dr E. J. Lowe

Sir, Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four* is no more a work of prediction than *Gulliver's Travels* is a work of geography. Is it too much to hope that we may be spared further misrepresentations in the year to come?

Yours faithfully,
E. J. LOWE,
University of Durham,
Department of Philosophy,
50 Old Elvet, Durham.
December 30.

SOCIAL NEWS

Princess Anne, Upper Warden of the Farriers' Company, will attend a ladies' dinner at Innholders' Hall on February 1.

Princess Anne will attend a reception for the Westminster Medical School Research Trust at Speaker's House on February 7.

The Amir of Bahrain will pay a state visit to the United Kingdom and will stay at Windsor Castle from April 10 to 13.

The Duke of Kent, President of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, will attend the club dinner at the Institute of Directors on April 5.

The Duchess of Kent will take the salute at the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst on April 6.

The Duke of Kent, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, will attend the annual investiture and grand festival at Freemasons' Hall on April 25.

The Duchess of Kent will open the new production line at Jamesons Chocolates plc, Tottenham, London on April 26.

The King of Spain is 46 today.

The Grand Duke of Luxembourg is 63 today.

A memorial service for General Sir Neil Ritchie will be held at noon today in the Kirk of Canongate, Edinburgh.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr J. B. Ure, aged 52, Assistant Under-Secretary of State (America) in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, to be Ambassador to Brazil in succession to Sir William Harding.

General Sir Robert Ford, Colonel Commandant Special Air Force Regiment, to be Colonel 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, Dec 31.

Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. G. Bengough to be Colonel The Royal Hussars (Prince of Wales's Own), Jan 1.

Brigadier H. C. Millman to be Colonel The Queen's Regiment, Jan 1.

Lieutenant-General G. Howlett, Colonel Commandant Army Catering Corps, to be Colonel Commandant The Parachute Regiment, Dec 31.

Brigadier R. M. Llewellyn to be Colonel Ghurka Transport Regiment, Jan 1.

General Sir Richard Trant, Colonel Commandant Royal Artillery, Colonel Commandant Royal Army Educational Corps, to be Colonel Commandant Royal Army Ordnance Corps, Jan 1.

Brigadier G. Smith to be Colonel Commandant Royal Army Dental Corps, Dec 31.

Senior Army appointments

COLONEL COMMANDANT: Major-General A K F Walker to be Colonel Commandant Royal Tank Regiment, Dec 12.

MAJOR-GENERAL: B Livesey to RAM College as Comdt and Postgraduate Dean, Jan 3.

BRIGADIERS: F R Maynard to HQ Trg Gp R Sig and Catterick Gar as Comd, Jan 5; P H B O'Meara to MOD as SO Education in Army Study, Dec 12; R A C Plummer to Staff College as Ch Examiner 1984 PQS2 Written Exam, Jan 3; W K L Prosser to HQ 1 (BR) Corps as Brig Inf Comdt STC, Jan 3; J A P Russell to SANGCOM Project as Team Comd, Jan 2; J R Templer to HQ UKLF as ACOS, Jan 3; M J Wilkes to 1 Armd Div and Sig Regt as Comd 22 Armd Bde & Hohne Gar, Jan 6.

COLONELS: D J Frost to DAEd as Col AED 5, Jan 6; D A Man to SHAPE BAE as Col, Jan 4; A J Swan to HQ BFF(AE) as DCOS, Jan 8.

LIEUTENANT-COLONELS: R C Armstrong, RHF, to RMCS as SO1 DS, Jan 6; P G Harrison, AAC, to RAE Farnborough as SO1, Jan 6; J L McClean, RAEC, to RAES as SRAO No 4 Panel, Jan 6; D C Parker, Para, to MOD as SO1, Jan 8; J G Paxton, RAEC, to HQ DAEd as SO1 Inspector, Jan 4; M J Strudwick, RS, to HQ 1 (Br) Corps as SO1, Jan 6; P E Woolley, PWO, to HQ BRITFORLEB as SO1/Comd, Jan 3.

RETIREMENTS: Lieutenant-General Sir Maurice Johnston (late QDG), Jan 3; Major-General W N J Withall (late RE), Jan 2; Brigadier J W C Speckman (late RAOC), Jan 2.

Birthdays today

Mr Alfred Brendel, 53; Miss Stella Gibbons, 82; Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. Hanbury, 68; Sir Frank Hartley, 73; Sir Alan Hume, 71; Miss Jan Leeming, 42; Mr R Leigh-Pemberton, 57; His Honour Sir Rudolph Lyons, QC, 72; Mr D S Oxley, 46; Mr Maurizio Pollini, 42; Major-General H Quinlan, 78; Mr Wilhelm Soukop, 77; Mrs Kitty Wilson, 80.

Dinner

Sherlock Holmes Society of London

The annual dinner of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London was held at the Charing Cross Hotel last night, with the canonical title of "The Trumpington Triumph". Mr Charles E. Scholefield, QC, president of the society, was in the chair and the guest of honour was Dr P. D. James. Mr Bernard Davies, chairman, also spoke.

Prehistoric fish skeleton is identified

The skeleton of a 7 ft prehistoric fish discovered recently is more than 150 million years old and the first of its kind to be found in Britain, according to the Natural History Museum, in London.

The fossilized bones were found in claypits in Peterborough in November by a Leicester University geology student, Mr David Martill, who took them to the Natural History Museum.

Scientists said the fish belonged to the genus *Asthenocormus*.

Latest wills

Mrs Cicely Tudor **Lewis**, of Putney, London, left estate valued at £517,917 net.

Mr Eric **Lightfoot**, of Mayfair, London, left £498,226 net.

Mr William Robert **Atkins**, of Corfe Mullen, Dorset, who died intestate, left £398,179 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Birnie, Mrs Margaret, of Bushey Heath £236,130

Brown, Mrs Catherine McLean, of Eastbourne £389,667

Dobie, Mr William, of Ancaster £228,875



Geese galore: Geese thriving on a collective farm on the steppes of central Soviet Union. The mixed farm, called Thirty Years of Kazakhstan, is also a large industrial complex employing 300 people on construction works

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. Wilson and Miss P. M. Turner

The engagement is announced between Andrew, younger son of Sir David Wilson, Bt, and Lady Wilson, of Tandem House, Oxshott, Surrey, and Penelope May, second daughter of Colonel and Mrs Bill Turner, of the Holt, Woolton Hill, Newbury, Berkshire.

Mr J. C. Cave and Miss C. D. Lloyd

The engagement is announced between John, eldest son of Sir Charles and Lady Cave, of Sidbury Manor, Sidmouth, Devon and Carey, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Lloyd, of Barrymore Farm, Langport, Somerset.

Lieutenant T. R. J. Bromige, RN, and Miss F. A. V. White

The engagement is announced between Timothy Robert James, elder son of Mr and Mrs C. D. Bromige, of Widcombe, Bath, and Fiona Anne Venner, elder daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs K. G. White, of SHAPE, and Deal, Kent.

Mr R. W. Charles-Jones and Miss A. F. Ansdell

The engagement is announced between Rupert Wilson, youngest son of Mr Hugh Charles-Jones, of Windrush Manor, Burford, Oxfordshire, and Mrs Pamela Charles-Jones, of Chartham Farmhouse, Ampney St Peter, Gloucestershire, and Alexandra Frances (Anna), elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Ansdell, of Iveson House, Ampney St Peter, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

Mr A. A. Cleal and Miss N. Monger

The engagement is announced between Adam, son of Mrs R. W. Harnoll, of Chard, Somerset, and the late Mr Anthony Cleal, and Noreen, daughter of Mr and Mrs G A. Monger, of Sunbury-on-Thames, Surrey.

Mr J. R. de Fonblanque and Miss M. Prest

The engagement is announced between John, younger son of the late Major-General E. B. de Fonblanque, CB, CBE, DSO, and of Mrs de Fonblanque, of Bank, Lyndhurst, Hampshire and Margaret, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs H. Prest, of Stafford.

Mr M. J. Doble and Dr N. S. Thevathasan

The engagement is announced between Michael, eldest son of the late Mr B. S. Doble and of Mrs M. I. Doble, of Clophill, Bedfordshire, and Nandika, daughter of Dr and Mrs V. M. Thevathasan, of Caerphilly, Mid-Glamorgan.

Mr C. G. S. Ely and Miss S. T. Carr

The engagement is announced between [illegible] Ely and Stephanie [illegible] of Primrose Hill, London, NW.

Mr N. D. Holmes and Miss A. J. Rolston

The engagement is announced between Nicholas David, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Frank Holmes, of April House, Hathaway Lane, Stratford-upon-Avon and Alicia Jane, second daughter of Lieutenant-Commander and Mrs John Rolston, of Fryton West, Slingsby, North Yorkshire.

Mr P. J. Hope and Miss A. G. Ross

The engagement is announced between Peter, eldest son of Mr I. M. Hope, of Spain and Mrs W. D. Hope, of Glasgow and Alison, only daughter of Brigadier and Mrs D. Ross, of Milland, Sussex.

Mr J. E. Isaacs and Miss J. E. Turner

The engagement is announced between Jeffrey Edward, only son of Mr and Mrs E. S. Isaacs, of Surrey, and Jane Emma, only daughter of Mr and Mrs I. H. Turner, of Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Mr J. P. B. Kidson and Miss M. R. C. Weston

The engagement is announced between Jonathan Peter Braithwaite, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Ian Kidson, of Little Onn Hall, Church Eaton, Staffordshire, and Mary Ruth Constance, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Weston, of Newport House, Weston-under-Lizard, Shifnal, Shropshire.

M G. G. Leaver de-Montfort and Miss A. C. M. Bruce Binney

The engagement is announced between Graham Guiy Leaver de-Montfort and Arabella Cecelia Margaret, daughter of Hector B Binney and Jutta von Haxthausen Bowan.

Mr P. E. Lindsell and Miss A. L. S. Stephenson

The engagement is announced between Philip Edmund, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. C. Lindsell, of St Ippolyts, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, and Alice Louise, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs C. S. Stephenson, of West Mews, Wylam, Northumberland.

Mr P. J. McDonnell and Dr J. H. Cooke

The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Dr and Mrs P. W. McDonnell, of Lytham St Annes, Lancashire, and Oughterard, co. Galway, Republic of Ireland, and Joanna, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J. W. Cooke, of Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire.

Dr M. K. Markovitch and Miss J. J. Heaven

The engagement is announced between Michael Karl, son of Mr and Mrs H. Markovitch, of Kensington, London, and Jennifer Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs G. J. Heaven, of Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield.

Mr F. W. Salway and Miss S. J. Peplow

The engagement is announced between Francis William, son of Mr and Mrs F. W. Salway, of Pen-y-Rhos, Oswestry, Shropshire, and Sarah Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. W. Peplow, The Hoo, Buckden, Cambridgeshire.

Lieutenant A. R. J. Sharp, RN, and Miss J. J. McFarlane

The engagement is announced between Andrew, youngest son of Mrs Y. M. Sharp and the late Mr H. T. Sharp, of Evesham, Worcestershire, and Joanna, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs J. S. McFarlane, of Atch Lench, nr Evesham, Worcestershire.

Mr C. D. Smith and Miss C. A. Fisher

The engagement is announced between Colin, son of Mrs F. J. Smith, and Carol, daughter of Mrs R. C. Gough, of 11 Greystones Drive, Reigate, Surrey, and Mr D. G. Fisher.

Captain M. B. D. Smith and Miss J. C. G. Carey

The engagement is announced between Michael Smith, The Royal Green Jackets, eldest son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs R. W. Smith, of Morningside, Edinburgh, and Jessica, youngest daughter of Major D. P. Carey, of Swallow Barn, Chobham, and the late Mrs E. M. Carey.

Mr N. C. Williams and Miss J. M. Peters

The engagement is announced between Nicholas Curwen, son of Paul and Isabel Williams, of Gillan Cottage, Heswall, and Jacqueline Mary, daughter of John and Mary Peters, of Sunny Corner, Thurstaston Road, Heswall, Cheshire.

Marriages

Mr J. E. Gerli and Mrs C. Stiassni

The marriage took place on Saturday, December 30, at the parish church of St Mary, Stogumber, Somerset, between Mr John Emmanuel Gerli, of Greenwich, Connecticut, and Mrs Charles Stiassni (née Christine Mary Illingworth), of Rye, New York, United States.

A reception was held at Hill Farm, Stogumber.

Pay-as-you-watch plan proposed

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

The BBC may have to consider charging for its broadcasts through home meters, a report said yesterday.

The conclusion is contained in a study by a working party of 12 which criticizes the government's policy on cable and satellite and calls for certain protective measures to be taken to ensure the survival of public broadcasting.

The report has been produced by the Broadcastingf Research Unit, which is jointly funded by the BBC, the Independent Broadcasting Authority, the Markle Foundation of New York and the British Film Institute.

Both the BBC and the independent television companies will have to compete with the services offered in the "new technologies" of cable and satellite. Traditional forms of television finance could be under threat.

The report concludes: "In the long term the BBC may well have to accept giving up the general licence fee and ITV will gradually have to abandon advertising as a main source of revenue.

Subscription for specialized services and payments for individual programmes will become the main way of paying for production.

"The idea of a metered system, as with the telephone at the present time, should in the long term be given serious consideration."

The report has eight principal recommendations aimed at ensuring that cable and satellite services do not do irreparable damage to conventional television.

The new authority, which would police cable and satellite, should licence national programme channels on offer to cable operators, award franchises for cable and satellite services and be satisfied that the content of cable television channels is acceptable.

The call for channel providers to be licensed is one of the most controversial recommendations of the report and conflicts with the Government's view. The Government believes the cable operator alone is the only individual needing to be licensed and that programme content on cable channels can be controlled through him.

There are many in the cable industry who do not share that view as a channel provider may be a multinational company with other media interests which would not be allowed to control a majority shareholding in a British television company policed by the IBA, yet could be allowed unrestricted access to a national television service on cable.

The quota on foreign material shown on cable networks is favoured by the majority of the working party.

The level is at present set at 14 per cent for the broadcasting networks. The working party favours limit.

It says: "We beleve, therefore, that it is essential that quota restrictions be imposed on teh amount of programme material imported from abroad which in effect means from countries outside the European Economic Community.

It would be very naive to expect in the first years that there will be no more tha 14 per cent of foreign programmes on cable television.

"We believe that the Cable and Satellite Television Authority (CSTA) must have the discretionry power itself t decide on such figures, and that it will have t satisfy itself periodically that progress is being made towards an acceptable level of British productions."

The new Cable and Broadcasting Bill now going through Parliament will create a Cable Television Authority.

The Government has awarded 11 companies franchises for multichannel cable television networks. These will be given letters of intent soon to allow them to go ahead with their preparations as official licenses cannot be given until the Bill is law, probably around July.

Two dissenting comments are published in the report.

A report from the working party on th new technologies (Broadcasting Research Unit, British Film Institute, 127 Charing Cros Road, London WC2H 0EH.

Royal Navy entries

The following successful candidates for the Royal Navy entered Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, yesterday.

DIRECT GRADUATE ENTRY

Lieutenant (short-career commission) Instructor Officer: C J Barrows, Nottingham Univ, Bosworth C, Leics; E N Cowlon, K Alfred's C, Hants, Prices S, Hants; G Evans, RMCS, Plymouth C of FE; M A Foster, Bath Univ, City of Bath Tech C; D F Hazel, King's College London, Blaydon GS, Co Durham; G Leadbeater, Nottingham Univ, Broadway GS, Barnsley; R N Lowe, Keele Univ, Framlingham C; P H Newman, Bath Univ, Marling GS, Stroud; F E F Price, King's College London, King's C, Taunton; M Windsor, Brunel Univ, Roan Boys GS, London.

Acting Sub-Lieutenant (medium-career commission) Instructor Officer: J Marshall, RN Upper Yardman.

Acting Sub-Lieutenant (short-career commission) Instructor Officer: P W Mason, Salford Univ.

Acting Sub-Lieutenant (full-career commission) Seaman Officer: P W Bell, Birmingham Poly, K Edward VI GS, Aston; M J Parr, Durham Univ, Addey and Stanhope S, London; A B Spence, Aston Univ, Rock Ferry HS, Birkenhead.

Acting Sub-Lieutenant (full-career commission) Engineer Officer: A R Green, Newcastle Univ, Ecclesbourne Co Secs, Derby; E M Reynolds, Bath Univ, Prices C, Hants.

Acting Sub-Lieutenant (full-career commission) Supply and Secretariat Officer: M J Zeller, Liverpool Univ, Woodbridge S, Suffolk.

Acting Sub-Lieutenant (short-career commission) seaman officer: M T G Durkin, Loughborough Univ, Oxford Poly; A D C Harley, Leeds Univ, Stockton 6th Form, C Hinton, Portsmouth Poly, Exeter C; A T Kennedy, Glasgow Univ, Jordanhill College S; A H Mellows, Leicester Univ, Winstanley C, Wigan; P M Pendleton, Durham Univ, King's S, Tynemouth; T J Prouty, Hull Univ, Wymondham C, Norfolk.

Acting Sub-Lieutenant (short-career commission) engineer officer: S G Cresworth, Cambridge Univ, St Michaels C, Leeds.

UNIVERSITY CADETSHIP ENTRY

Midshipman (full-career commission) seaman officer: W N Entwistle, Wellington S; T W Sasse, Ampleforth C.

Midshipman (full-career commission) engineer officer: P D Gilbert, Merchant Taylors S; T C Johnson, Bedford S; J M Read, Winchester C; D E Tallon-Brown, Canford S.

Midshipman (full-career commission) supply and secretariat officer: J P Tew, Bristol GS.

NAVAL COLLEGE ENTRY

Midshipman (full-career commission) seaman officer: I K Adam, Watson's C, Edinburgh; M T Anglim, Reigate 6th Form C; A S Borthwick, Q Victoria S, Dunblane; R D J Bulton, T Mills HS, Suffolk; A L Coles, RN Upper Yardman; A S Corbett, Wymondham C, Norfolk; D R Freeman, Q Elizabeth GS, Lincs; S E Kilby, Dyson Perrins CEHS, Worcs; I R McCall, G Heriots School, Edinburgh; R J Morris, Newcastle Univ, T Alleyne's HS, Staffs; M D Power, C of Nautical Studies; M Richards, Duke of Yorks Royal Mil Sch; D P Salisbury, Dauntsey's S, Wilts; I J Shewring, Canford S; P D Tattersall, Q Elizabeth GS, Lancs.

Midshipman (full-career commission) engineer officer: T N P Bennett, RN Upper Yardman; C V Berryman, RN Upper Yardman; A D Bonney, RN Upper Yardman; J R B Coulson, S Shields Marine and Tech C; S R Darnell, RN Upper Yardman; K D Enright, RN Upper Yardman; S H Kingsbury, Christ's C, Christchurch, NZ; A C N Pursey, RN Upper Yardman; J J Short, RN Upper Yardman.

Midshipman (full-career commission) supply and secretariat officer: L P Nolley, King's School, Lincs.

Midshipman (medium-career commission) engineer officer: S D C Andrews, RN Upper Yardman; P C Dennie, Glasgow C of Nautical Studies; S D Foster, Southampton C of FE; V Harris, RN Upper Yardman; R Mackay, RN Upper Yardman; N K Poole, RN Upper Yardman; M Walker, RN Upper Yardman.

Midshipman (short-career commission) seaman officer: C Brough, Hull Trinity House S; T I Chrishop, Christ's Hospl S, Horsham; P R Curran, Minister S, Southwell; A P C Davies, Pangbourne C; M F Dean, St John's C, Southsea; N A M Ferguson, J Neilson Sen HS, Paisley; J B Gething, Riversdale C of Tech; P J Green, Lincoln Christ Hosp S; N Hewson, Hull Trin House S; N G Holness, Mid-Warwickshire C of FE; M D L Hudson, St Joan of Arc S, Herts; A M Lewis, Solihull C; R M Nelson, Beecher Cliff S; S P Pryce, Woodbridge S, Suffolk; A J Taylor, RN Upper Yardman; C Trubshaw, Bishop Wordsworth GS, Wilts; R A Warrington, E Norfolk 6th Form C.

Midshipman (short-career commission) Supply and Secretariat Officers: G C Hamilton, Devonport HS; B J Mellor, RN Upper Yardman; A J Olliver, RN Upper Yardman; A J Sugden, Victoria C, Jersey; C R Wailes, R Gardner HS, Tyne and Wear.

Acting Sub-Lieutenant (short-career commission) Seaman (Hydrographer): J N Marsh, Manchester Univ, Stockton 6th Form C.

Midshipman (short-career commission) Seaman (Hydrographer): P A Randall, Warsash C of Naut Sc.

FLYING DUTIES

Acting Sub-Lieutenants (medium-career commission) Pilots: G M Harris, Lancaster Univ, ex-Humphry Davy GS, Penzance; T H Hopkins, Univ College Swansea, Croesyceiliog Comp S, Gwent; A Molloy, Leeds Univ, King's Manor Comp S, Cleveland.

Acting Sub-Lieutenants (short-career commission) Pilots: R Bajai, Manchester Univ, Hampton S, Middlesex; R P Chaloner, Durham Univ, Queen's Park HS, Chester; R E J Dowdell, Bristol Univ, Cranbrook S, Kent; S J Powell, Wales Univ, Ross-on-Wye GS; A W H Thom, Univ College of N Wales, Woodbridge S.

Midshipmen (medium-career commission) Pilots: M F A Borrelli, Totton C, Southampton, Houndsdown S, Southampton; P M Howard, Gordonstoun S, Moray.

Midshipmen (short-career commission) Pilots: M Barclay, Hurstpierpoint C, Sussex; M K Brookfield, Wirral GS; F Hopps, Canford S, Dorset; G J Langrish, King's Manor S, Sussex; J H Shelbourne, Maidenhead and Windsor C of Bus Studies.

Midshipmen (medium-career commission) Observers: G D Newell, Plymouth S of Mar Studies, Liskeard S; S L Norman, RN Upper Yardman.

Acting Sub-Lieutenant (short-career commission) Observers: I S T Fitter, Univ College London, Helston School; P T Fraser, Univ C of Swansea, Dowal School, Berks; K R Godfrey, Hatfield Poly, Midhurst GS, Sussex; D R Loxton, Reading Univ, Sherborne S, Dorset.

Midshipmen (short-career commission) Observers: A G Boyce, RN Upper Yardman; A J Buchan, Bay House S, Hants; J C Davies, Seale Hayne C, Devon, Pangbourne C, Berks; J R Nunn, T Peacocke, Comp S, Sussex; A Olive, Verulam S, Herts; B D Ross, Sherborne S, Dorset; J C Ryan, Duke of Yorks R Mil S, Kent; A J Wallis, Plymouth S of Mar Studies, Denes HS, Lowestoft.

BURSARY AWARDS (from September, 1983):

SEAMAN OFFICER: C E H Alcock, Imperial C, Dauntseys S, Wilts; M J Carson, Manchester Univ, European S, Brussels; T J B Davies, Portsmouth Poly, Canford S; P R Lees, Durham Univ, Sherborne S, Dorset; S J Taylor, York Univ, Trinity S.

ENGINEER OFFICER: C M Streeten, London Univ, City of London S.

Royal Marines

The following have been awarded a short-service commission and join the Commando Training Centre Royal Marines, Lympstone, on Monday:

J P Freeman, Warwick S; S M Gray, Winchester C; K A Simmons, Hereford 6th Form C.

The Duke of Kent, vice-chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, will make industrial visits at King's Lynn on April 27.

Science report

Early steelmakers of Africa

By Norman Hammond, Archaeological Correspondent

A combination of ethnographic and archaeological work in Tanzania has suggested that technologically complex iron-working developed in sub-Saharan Africa in the early centuries AD, independent of metallurgical progress in the Mediterranean zone.

The technique of the early African smiths involved pre-heating of the air blast used in smelting and was highly efficient.

Field work by Professor Peter Schmidt and Professor D. H. Avery, of Brown University, in the United States among the Haya people of north-western Tanzania documented a smelting technology that involved a furnace partly dug into the ground.

The pit was lined with fine earth from a termite mound, and the chimney above ground was made from a mixture of termite earth and slag. At ground level tuyères were inserted through which air was blown into the mixture of charcoal and ore.

Those features matched fragmentary evidence from early Iron Age furnaces excavated by Professor Schmidt on the western shores of Lake Victoria, where tuyère fragments were found with slag flow on them, were partly vitrified, and had been reduced by a low-oxygen atmosphere.

The fragments suggested that the ancient smiths had preheated the air used, and thus achieved high furnace temperatures, resulting in a massive steel.

The ancient furnaces were excavated at the Kemondo Bay KM2 site, where 15 overlay a house floor of about 200BC. The furnaces dated to as early as the first century AD.

At the KM3 site, mines, slag dumps, ore-processing areas, industrial refuse dumps, and numerous smelting furnaces were found consisting of bowl-shaped pits into which the remains of the chimney had collapsed. The pits averaged 114 cm (3 ft 9 in) in diameter, and several of them had a small hole in the floor.

Analysis of the bloom fragment from the KM3 furnace showed that the iron had been heavily carburized to a carbon content of about 1 per cent, as the result of prolonged heating in a carbon rich atmosphere at 800 to 850°C.

The quality of some of the iron produced, the authors say, is as high as that of eighteenth or nineteenth century North American or European bloomery iron:

The form of the furnaces used in Tanzania, taken together with evidence for iron working as far back as the eighth century BC in Nigeria, suggest that this technological development was of African origin, and not diffused from the iron-working areas of the Mediterranean.

Source: *Journal of Field Archaeology* (vol 10, pp 421 to 434).

New uses for straw could end stubble-burning

By Thomson Prentice

The Greeks mix it with molasses and feed it to their cows, the Dutch protect their strawberry fields with it, the Italians are turning it into cardboard and the French subsidize it. But the British set fire to their straw, causing pollution and posing a threat to wildlife.

Six million tons of straw go up in smoke every harvest time, but scientific advances linked to proposed government controls on straw burning may lead to a multimillion pound industry which cashes in on chaff.

The end of last summer saw hundreds of straw fires out of control, leading to a series of road accidents where motorists' vision was obscured by smoke. In one accident near Thirsk, Yorkshire, involving eight vehicles, two people were killed. In another, 10 people were injured in a 16-vehicle accident in Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire.

The resulting public outcry prompted government action and focused attention on productive alternatives to straw burning. Among those are projects at ICI Billingham, in conjunction with Birmingham University, and at the Agricultural Research Council laboratories at Letcombe, Oxfordshire.

The council researching a process which turns straw into a nitrogen-rich compost and investigating methods of mixing straw into the soil to improve crop yields.

Laboratory work is well advanced and the next stage is field trials. Those are hampered by budgetary restrictions. Experiments suggest that straw from one year could provide up to a quarter of a farmer's nitrogen requirements for the next year's crop.

Scientists at ICI and Birmingham University have developed a fast-working catalyst to convert straw, and other waste materials such as newsprint and brewers' grain waste, to glucose and other sugars.

After four years' research, a unit will be opened at Billingham within the next few months to advance the process to a small industrial pilot scale.

Although farmers are keen to find alternatives to straw burning, the National Farmers Union remains unconvinced of the large-scale benefits suggested by research. Straw is burnt to speed the preparation of their land for the next cereal crop, allowing it to be planted in the autumn rather than the next spring. They also point out that burning destroys pests and weeds.

The Countryside Commission, however, wants a ban on straw burning within three years years. This month, local authorities wll receive Home Office draft proposals which include limiting the area of burning to six hectares (about 15 acres), establishing firebreaks at least 25 metres wide, and requiring the presence of two trained supervisors at fires.

OBITUARY

MR RICHARD HUGHES

Notable foreign correspondent

Mr Richard Hughes, CBE, a well-known foreign correspondent who spent much of his career in the Far East and who came to typify that breed – to the extent that he was used as a model for characters in their novels by both Ian Fleming and John Le Carré – died in Hongkong on January 4 at the age of 77.

Hughes was a gifted journalist and a man of great friendliness and warmth. In later years he became virtually an institution in Hongkong, particularly at the Foreign Correspondents' Club, which he had helped to found and where his bust occupied a place of honour for several years.

Born in Melbourne in 1906 of Welsh and Irish descent, Hughes was educated at the Christian Brothers College in St Kilda, and as a young man worked as a poster artist and railway clerk, while contributing numerous articles to the *Railway Magazine* – his debut in journalism.

In 1934 Hughes joined the Melbourne *Star* and subsequently the Sydney *Daily Telegraph*, owned by Sir Frank Packer, as a reporter. In 1939 he was assigned to Tokyo where he became a close acquaintance of the Soviet spy Richard Sorge and the Japanese Foreign Minister Yosuke Matsuoka.

The Pacific war did not affect Hughes's deep affection and respect for Japan and the Japanese – even at times when such sentiments were barely acceptable among the Allied nations.

In 1941 he was assigned to the United States, and later to the Allied forces in North Africa, but he was stricken by rheumatic fever and bedridden for a long time.

After VJ day Hughes was posted to Tokyo to cover the occupation of Japan. A disagreement with his employers led to his departure from the Packer organisation, and he became manager of the Tokyo foreign correspondents' club.

Meanwhile he wrote for the *Financial Times*, the *Wall Street Journal* and *The Economist*, and joined *The Sunday Times* in 1948, when the late Ian Fleming was foreign manager. Fleming forbade him, for health reasons, to cover the Korean war on the spot. But later he visited China, including Xinjiang (the former Eastern Turkestan), and his colourful and witty reporting from there contributed to his fame.

In 1956 he achieved a spectacular coup when he travelled to Moscow and, after a long wait, was permitted to interview the British spies Burgess and Maclean, who had been kept in seclusion since their defection. He then moved to Hongkong, where he began his association with Rupert Murdoch and covered events in China, Hongkong and South-east Asia extensively for Australian newspapers. His association with *The Sunday Times* brought him into contact with *The Times* through their joint ownership by Lord Thomson of Fleet and from 1972 he wrote for *The Times* from Hongkong.

Hughes was the author of two highly entertaining books about the far east – *Foreign Devil* and *"Borrowed Place, Borrowed Time"*, (about Hongkong). He himself was used as the model for the characters of Dikko Henderson, an Australian secret agent in Ian Fleming's *You Only Live Twice*, set in Japan, and of Craw, in Le Carre's *The Honourable Schoolboy*, much of which was set in Hongkong.

For the past few years Hughes published a popular weekly column in the Hongkong *Far Eastern Economic Review*, where he drew on his memories and notebooks (none of which he ever threw away).

He was appointed CBE and in 1983 the Australian Government took the unprecedented step of paying him a pension even though he was not resident in the country of his birth.

Hughes was a man of old-fashioned courtesy, though he delighted in showing his earthy side, too. He rarely spoke ill of anybody and was at ease in any company, though he flaunted a mock-serious horror of communism and communists.

His first and second wives predeceased him, and he is survived by his widow Anne, daughter of the Kuomintang General Lee Kon-to and by his son Richard, a jazz pianist.

CAPTAIN A. D. D. ROGERS

Captain A. D. D. Rogers, MC, who died in a Dublin nursing home on January 1 at the age of 61, was one of the leading figures in the world of Irish horse racing and breeding.

"Tim", as he was known to friends round the world, was bred for racing, as his grandfather, J. T., his father, Darby, and his brother, Mick, all trained winners of the Irish Derby, while Mick in addition won two Epsom Derbies with Hard Ridden and Santa Claus. Educated at Sherborne, Tim Rogers saw service during the Second World War with the 4th Hussars, and was awarded the MC.

On the occasion of visits of Winston Churchill to the Italian theatre, Rogers served as his ADC and it was from Churchill that he made two of his most significant early stallion purchases, Vienna and High Hat.

In 1946 his father purchased a 400-acre farm at Lucan in Co Dublin, and Rogers came home first to manage and later to own the property. In the course of the next 36 years he built up a linking complex of studs in Ireland, and in addition branched out into breeding in New Zealand.

Among the classic winners bred by him were Martial (2,000 Guineas) and Glad Rags (1,000 Guineas). He made his biggest impact, however, as a maker of sires and in this connexion his most significant acquisition was Habitat, who currently holds the record for the number of European group race winners.

He is survived by his wife, Sonia, and two sons.

ROBERT ST JOHN COOPER

Robert St. John Cooper, the artist and writer, died on January 1 at his home, Garlinge Court, near Canterbury, aged 78.

Best-known in recent years for his creation of that valiant fighter against nationalisation, Mr Cube, for Tate & Lyle Ltd, he began his career with the *Daily Express* under the editorship of Arthur Christiansen as a layout man, and had a significant influence on modern newspaper design.

Eventually he became features editor after trying his hand as a daily columnist, reporter, fiction writer and illustrator, stand-in theatre critic, fashion artist and – his greatest pride – writing the 'Beachcomber' column over a period of eight years when Mr Morton was on holiday. He was also an *Express* war correspondent sending back a daily cartoon, 'Young Bert', who was the cause of the song, 'We're going to Hang out our Washing on the Siegfried Line'.

During the newsprint shortage he was encouraged by Sir Michael Balcon to form a cartoon film unit at Ealing Studios. After the war he set up Visual & Editorial Publicity Ltd., and besides cartoons for the *Daily Mirror*, *Sunday Pictorial* and *Daily Herald*, he did creative work for a number of major advertising agencies, and was consultant to Public Relations Counsel Ltd.

Throughout this time his long association with Tate & Lyle was continued, and he was still drawing Mr Cube until the time of his death.

AIR COMMODORE ALLEN WHEELER

Air Commodore Allen Wheeler, CBE, FRAeS, who died on January 1 aged 80, was noted for his test and experimental flying achievements, especially when commanding the Performance Testing Squadron at Boscombe Down and the Experimental Flying Department at RAE Farnborough during the Second World War.

Wheeler vividly described his experiences in a book called ...*that nothing failed them Testing Aeroplanes in War*, published in 1963. One of the aircraft he tested at RAE was a captured FW190, the most potent adversary of RAF Fighter Command.

Allen Wheeler was born on 27 September 1903 and educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge. He was commissioned in the RAF in 1925 and trained as an engineer as well as a pilot, before attending Staff College in 1933.

His commands at Boscombe Down and Farnborough were in 1941-43 and while at RAE he flew the first British jet aircraft, the Gloster Whittle E28/39.

He subsequently became involved in development flying for the airborne forces prior to the invasion of Sicily and commanded a No 38 Group station, Fairford, at the time of the Normandy landings and the Arnhem operation.

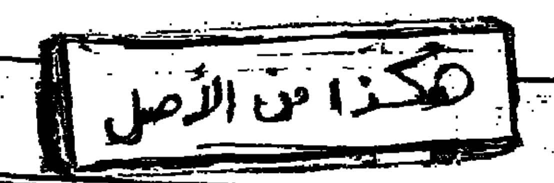
He was later appointed SASO (Senior Air Staff Officer) at Base Air Forces, South-east Asia, with the rank of air commodore.

After the war he commanded RAF Cyprus (1950-51) and the A&AEE (Aeroplane and Armament Experimental Establishment), Boscombe Down (1952-55). He ws an assessor at the Comet inquiry in 1954 and a Trustee of the Shuttleworth Trust, the vintage aircraft and car collection at Old Warden airfield, Bedfordshire.

Mr Stasys Lozoraitis, Foreign Minister of independent Lithuania in the 1930s and chief of the diplomatic service in exile abroad since 1940, died in Rome on December 24 at the age of 88.

Lady Carter, wife of His Honour Sir Walker Carter, QC, died on January 2.

Lady Newboult, widow of the late Sir Alexander Newboult, KBE, CMG, MC, died on December 30.



THE ARTS

Records: **Paul Griffiths** and **John Higgins** close the account [redacted]leases of 1983

Twilit wonders

Wagner: Götterdämmerung. Soloists/Dresden Staatskapelle/Janowski. Eurodisc 301 917-468 (6 records)
Liszt: Faust Symphony, Les Preludes. Philadelphia/Muti: EMI SLS 1435703
Liszt: Christus. Soloists/ Dortmund Music Union Choir/ Cologne PO/Heinz Panzer. DG 0180 075 (4 records)
Dukas: Ariane et Barbe-Bleue. Soloists/ New PO of French Radio/Jordan. Erato/Conifer NUM 750693 (3 records)

A *Ring* that started in triumph has ended in magnificence mixed with confusion: the story of Marek Janowski's recording matches all too well that of the work itself. Where his *Rheingold* and *Walküre* were almost universally admired, his *Siegfried* already appeared problematic and his new *Götterdämmerung* is a twilight indeed, if one that sometimes seems to be involving galaxies in its downfall.

What rocks the foundations of this *Götterdämmerung* is also what proved most valuable in the earlier operas: Mr Janowski's perception of the orchestral score as a potent narrative thread. And, if this now works against the strength of the performance, the fault is partly Wagner's, for in *Die Walküre* the orchestra is a projection of the minds of the characters whereas in *Götterdämmerung* it is much more the aural setting for an epic. A quickening excitement in the dialogue between Siegmund and Sieglinde, therefore, has a real grounding in the dramatic situation, whereas an extravagant tragic manner in this final opera – in the interlude before the Brünnhilde-Waltraute scene, for example, or in the funeral music for Siegfried – can sound intolerably vulgar.

On the positive side, the Dresden orchestra continue to provide some of the most sheerly beautiful Wagnerian sounds to have been heard through loudspeakers, and the cast is generally good. The pathetic, unknowing Siegfried of this opera is possibly René Kollo's best part, and Jeannine Altmeyer sees through to the end her palpably human, suffering Brünnhilde. Outstanding among the rest is the fearsome, ebony-smooth and obdurate Hagen of Matti Salminen.

Set beside Wagner's, Liszt's seems a more human art in its admission of contradiction and variety of taste. New recordings of two major works emphasize the difference. The *Faust Symphony* may find justification for a split personality in its portrayal successively of Faust, Gretchen and Mephistopheles, but its massive strengths are not so neatly explained. Indeed, they almost tear the music apart, especially in a powerful performance under Riccardo Muti that needs this conductor's firm hand to keep it on target when so much is being so furiously staked.

The oratorio *Christus* is a still more variable work, going all the way from the sublime to the appallingly sentimental, from the awesomely majestic to the trite. In fact, it is not really a "work" at all but rather a collection of episodes relating to each other as might the parts of a cathedral built over several centuries. A recording provides the ideal opportunity to explore this ramshackle edifice, and the lack of star names should deter no one: this is a very thoughtful and positive performance, an act of irregular faith as much as Liszt's in composing the thing.

Another act of faith is embodied in the new recording, the first ever, of Dukas's largest work, his opera *Ariane et Barbe-Bleue*. Setting Maeterlinck only a few years after *Pelléas*, Dukas was naturally very aware of Debussy's opera; he even quotes it. However, his musical and emotional solidity is far from Debussy – as far as Richard Strauss, or Massenet, or Franck, or (in premonition) Messiaen, all of whom are called to mind at various points. If the work still has an atmosphere entirely its own, that is probably because Dukas was so deeply involved in his heroine's quest for truth and integrity, whatever the cost. *Ariane* is a fairytale with a moral, and a score of great splendour. With a cast led by the imperious mezzo Katherine Ciesinski, and with vital conducting from Armin Jordan, the recording is an important addition to the repertory of the gramophone, especially when this is an opera that takes place so much in the mind.

P.G.

Boulez makes immedia[redacted]

Boulez: Rituel, Eclat/Multiples. BBCSO/Ensemble InterContemporain/Boulez. CBS 74109.
Messiaen: Livre d'orgue. Jennifer Bate. Unicorn-Kanchana DKP 9028.
Koechlin: Seven Stars Symphony. Monte Carlo PO/Myrat. EMI ASD 1731391.
Davies: Piano Sonata; Goehr: Capriccio, Nonomiya. Stephen Pruslin. Auracle AUC 1005.

Anyone confused about the state of music today (and that includes most of us) could well find succour in the new recording of two works by Boulez. As they stand, they both date from the 1970s: *Rituel* was quickly written in 1973-74 as a memorial to Boulez's colleague Bruno Maderna; *Eclat/Multiples* is a piece of slower growth and more mutable form which the recording freezes in the state it had reached around the time of *Rituel*. The two pieces are, however, wholly unlike. *Rituel* is a processional, solemn and magnificent, where instrumental groups lay down their wreaths of melodies and march slowly on in massive chords. The orchestra is predominantly of wind insturments, with layers of slow ticking from rhythm percussion to keep time.

Eclat/Multiples, much more typically for Boulez, puts the accent on the splashy resonances of tuned percussion: vibraphone, harp, bells, celesta and the rest. It is music of great brilliance and energy, figured with lightning gestures, moving in quite other ways than the slow, steady tread of *Rituel*. The only thing that unites the works is their beauty, and the fact that both make an immediate appeal through the outward show of that beauty in marvellousness of sound.


Pierre Boulez: achieving beauty of[redacted]

Rituel is probably the most Messiaen-like piece Boulez has composed, in which case it makes a nice comparison with the elder composer's *Livre d'orgue*, written during a brief period, around 1950, when he was much influenced by the forward-thrusting speculations of his young pupil. No wonder Unicorn-Kanchana have kept this tough nut until last in their magnificent Messiaen cycle played by Jennifer Bate at Beauvais Cathedral, for there are movements of the *Livre* that still sound as austerely forbidding as crosswords in Sanskrit. Even so, Miss Bate makes it all work, and, if the mechanism of the music is perceived as arcane, its substance is communicated with enormous strength and candour.

Messiaen's own antecedents remain obscure, though somewhere among them must be counted the hugely productive Charles Koechlin, whose *Seven Stars Symphony* is once more available in a recording that generously adds the Ballade, Op 50, a single-movement piano concerto of intimate musing played by Bruno Rigutto. The symphony has the charming plan of devoting each movement to the portrayal of a film star of the period (1933): variations for Marlene Dietrich that hover between the academic and the sexy, a substantial study in optimistic pessimism for Charlie Chaplin, a slow movement led by the ethereal ondes martenot for Greta Garbo, and so on. As a curiosity the piece is excellent value. And then one finds that Koechlin is also a quite remarkable composer.

[redacted]

Alluring Strauss

Strauss: Daphne. Popp/ Goldberg/Schreier/Moll/ Bavarian RSO/Haitink. EMI SLSS 1435823 (2 records)
Puccini: La rondine. Te Kanawa/Domingo/Rendall/ Nucci/LSO/ Maazel. CBS D2 37852 (2 records)
Mado Robin: Souvenirs de la Belle Epoque. Conifer/EMI 2C 061-11084

The last part of 1983 brought two little-performed operas by highly popular composers, Richard Strauss's *Daphne* and Puccini's *La rondine*. Both issues are quite good enough musically to encourage any opera house hesitating over them to step forward and take the plunge.

Strauss's late *Daphne* – only *Die Liebe der Danae* and *Capriccio* were to follow as stage works – has a ravishing score, at least to those who like the composer at his most sumptuous. Detractors will immediately point out similarities with the last section of *Ariadne auf Naxos*. But there are a number of obstacles in the way of theatrical success, including an overblown libretto by Joseph Gregor about the girl Daphne who ends by being turned into a laurel tree. And indeed much of the action is rooted to the spot.

There is too the matter of casting: the title role is extremely taxing, not least because there is no break in the hundred or so minutes of music, and two contrasting tenors of strength and range are needed for the parts of Apollo and Daphne's childhood friend, Leukippos.

In the studio these problems become a shade easier and EMI have solved them well. Lucia Popp has probably been caught at just the right time in her career for Daphne: the coloratura is still there, so is the girlish freshness in the voice, but with them there is the mature volume to pierce the orchestra.

Reiner Goldberg's clarity and ring, despite a bit of strain at the top of the voice, as Apollo make it all the more diappointing that he did not achieve Bayreuth as Siegfried last summer. He has clearly worked hard with his conductor, and vice versa. His fellow East German Peter Schreier is as accomplished and as musical as ever in the role of Leukippos. But it is for the orchestra above all that *Daphne* draws the listner and Bernard Haitink, who has already proved his way with late Strauss at Glyndebourne, draws exquisite music from the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra.

It should be noted that DG reissued the only rival set on cheap label not so long ago, although it was swiftly deleted, perhaps only temporarily. But despite the unchallenged credentials of Karl Böhm in the pit and the presence of Fritz Wunderlich (Leukippos) the sound quality, drawn from 1964 performances at the Theater an der Wien during the Vienna Festival, is not the best.

In *Daphne* Strauss returned to his beloved ancient Greece: in *La rondine* Puccini chanced his arm, none too successfully, at a salon opera. Once again the libretto is stilted and Puccini should have insisted on far more changes than he did, although as usual he was not exactly undemanding. The score is always promising rather more than it delivers, despite the familiarity of the "bel sogno di Doretta" sung first by the second tenor (David Rendall) rather than the first, Ruggero (Placido Domingo).

Nevertheless, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa makes a convincing and impetuous figure of the grand lady, Magda, who temporarily joins the ranks of the midinettes in pursuit of love. There is some impassioned singing between her and Domingo, both urged on by Lorin Maazel, who has always been a fine Puccini conductor. The three of them together make *La rondine* sound much better than it really is.

Finally a *bonne bouche*. On the Conifer import list there is a succulent record made almost a quarter of a century ago by Mado Robin in Paris of the songs beloved by the Belle Epoque: "Plaisirs d'amour", "Roses of Picardy" and even the Shadow Aria from Meyerbeer's *Dinorah*. Few singers sounded more idiomatic in his repertoire than Mme Robin.

J. H.

Concerts

Le Nouveau Quatour
Purcell Room

Telemann has had such a raw deal in the past from generations of musicologists seemingly convinced that because he wrote so much he must have been writing drivel – an attitude enshrined in successive editions of *Grove's Dictionary* until the most recent revision – that it is good to find that, just as he is getting his due from scholars as a strikingly original figure among the mid-eighteenth century ferment of musical styles, a new performing group is basing itself on his work.

Le Nouveau Quatour has adapted its name from a set of pieces Telemann published in 1738: harpsichord, flute, violin and gamba form its basis, but, since Telemann's instrumentations are rarely as simple as they seem, so too the quartet added a fifth member, the lutenist Nigel North, for this concert.

Telemann's endless inventiveness creates plenty of problems: how do you balance an ensemble in which the usual bass instrument, the gamba, has an independent quasi-tenor part, or one in which the solo harpsichord is required to remain silent in the places where continuo support is most needed?

That this group did not quite solve that sort of poser was scarcely surprising, although in the two Paris Quartets which began and ended the evening the most striking imbalance was in the least difficult area, between violin and flute. Although Utako Ikeda's flute playing here and in the Trio No 4 was delicate and agile, it was too pale and unvaried to compete with the colourful string sounds of Elizabeth Wallfisch's violin or Mark Caudle's gamba.

Caudle, in partnership with Nigel North, provided some debonair, pastel-shaded playing in the Trio No 2 (where the harpsichordist should surely have lowered the lid to avoid drowning the lute), and North himself played Bach's odd Prelude, Fugue and Allegro for lute in beautifully contemplative style, the resonances suiting both his large archlute and the dry hall admirably. Paul Nicholson, the reliable and energetic harpsichordist, gave Bach's Italian Concerto a fluent but uninvolving account.

The most interesting thing in the evening was Elizabeth Wallfisch's account of Bach's E major Violin Sonata: she holds her violin far more freely than most so-called baroque violinists, not using the chin at all, and scuttles her short bow across the strings with a rare assurance. Both her playing position and her dramatic sense create some problems of intonation and the occasional disconcerting unevenness, but the result has flair, passion and conviction.

Nicholas Kenyon

Jones/McMahon
Wigmore Hall

The two-piano recital, like the two-piano composition, is a strange creature, making unusually testing demands on both audience and performers. How, for example, to find a just balance between the intimacy and extroversion of the medium? How to tune in and pace one's listening?

Martin Jones and Richard McMahon, who have recorded the complete Rachmaninov music for two pianos, took up the challenge on Tuesday. Rachmaninov himself stood at the centre of the evening with his Second Suite. I have heard more mercurial, effervescent performances; but, if Jones and McMahon did not quite make notes and nerves tingle in the March and Tarantella, then their characteristic compressed energy and steely simultaneity redoubled the energy of the Waltz, charging every second of its inner voices.

It was this brilliance of dexterity combined with carefully heard voicing that made their Grainger/Gershwin opening so successful. They have recently recorded Percy Grainger's Fantasy on *Porgy and Bess* on Oriana, and they now have to a nicety Gershwin's refracted image: blurred here, tinted there, toyed with or gaudily framed by Grainger's own voracious appetite for rhythmic multiplicity and harmonic teasing.

It is more medley than true fantasy, compared, for instance, with Liszt's operatic transcriptions: the joins show, so what better than to glory in them? Jones and McMahon wisely did just that, sidestepping their way from "My man's gone now" to "It ain't necessarily so" and cutting through the knotty sequences linking "Bess" with "I got plenty of nuttin'".

The second half consisted entirely of Messiaen's *Visions de l'Amen*, seven Amens too many, despite the composer's ingenious tailoring of the medium to his unique expressive ends, and despite a performance whose stamina won hands down over that of at least one member of the audience.

Hilary Finch





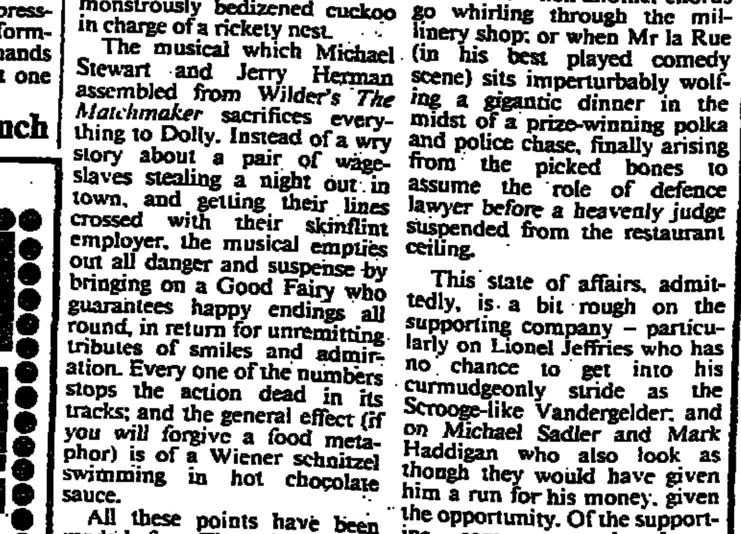
Theatre

Everything sacrificed

Hello, Dolly!
Prince of Wales

Casting a rueful backward glance at this "interminable song-and-dance show", Brooks Atkinson remarked on the irony that Thornton Wilder's biggest hit had none of his personal quality. To which you can only say that Wilder had himself to blame for introducing the character of Dolly Levi in the first place. Let loose on a perfectly good plot by Nestroy, she promptly gobbled it up, and swelled to such proportions that there was nothing left but a monstrously bedizened cuckoo in charge of a rickety nest.


Danny la Rue: crescendo of costume-changes



The musical which Michael Stewart and Jerry Herman assembled from Wilder's *The Matchmaker* sacrifices everything to Dolly. Instead of a wry story about a pair of wage-slaves stealing a night out in town, and getting their lines crossed with their skinflint employer, the musical empties out all danger and suspense by bringing on a Good Fairy who guarantees happy endings all round, in return for unremitting tributes of smiles and admiration. Every one of the numbers stops the action dead in its tracks; and the general effect (if you will forgive a food metaphor) is of a Wiener schnitzel swimming in hot chocolate sauce.

All these points have been made before. The only question is how Stewart and Herman, by killing a good play, achieved a musical which seems destined to pull in ecstatic houses until the crack of doom. The answer is that *Hello Dolly!* satisfies the hunger for star-worship. It is the ultimate example of a show that only exists to exhibit a totem figure for public worship. The part has attracted real actresses (like Mary Martin and Dora Bryan); but the main qualifications for anyone undertaking the role are pre-existent glamour and the capacity to receive applause gracefully.

It is therefore a fitting vehicle for Danny la Rue, with whose performance the piece sheds its last link with the outside world. It matters not at all that there is no warmth in his playing, that the task of preserving a female mask, chin up, teeth gleaming, denies him any change in facial expression, and that his voice remains the small, incisively articulated instrument of a revue artist. What counts is that a lot of people are keen on Mr la Rue, and that he goes through the required crescendo of costume-changes from a modest salmon pink to an apocalypic walk-down as if sprayed in icing sugar from top to toe.

In a way, it is a relief not to be asked to pay any attention to what was always an incoherent story. Take the scene of the double dinner in the Harmonia Gardens where the plot is developing nicely, with Cornelius and Vandergelder putting in rival requests to the restaurant orchestra, only to be summarily cut short by Dolly's arrival at the top of the staircase. On this occasion the diners are clearly filling in the time until she comes: and the attention is fixed not on them but on the cartwheeling and leap-frogging waiters (posthumous congratulations to the choreographer Gower Champion) who come into their own as a chorus of courtiers baying with ardent devotion for their queen.

Nor, in Peter Coe's production, is there any sense of the absurd when another chorus go whirling through the millinery shop: or when Mr la Rue (in his best played comedy scene) sits imperturbably wolfing a gigantic dinner in the midst of a prize-winning polka and police chase, finally arising from the picked bones to assume the role of defence lawyer before a heavenly judge suspended from the restaurant ceiling.

This state of affairs, admittedly, is a bit rough on the supporting company – particularly on Lionel Jeffries who has no chance to get into his curmudgeonly stride as the Scrooge-like Vandergelder; and on Michael Sadler and Mark Haddigan who also look as though they would have given him a run for his money, given the opportunity. Of the supporting company, only Lorna Dallas, as the fun-loving milliner, escapes the shadow of the all-devouring star, and projects a firm character and a good voice of her own.

Tim Goodchild's sets offer the eccentricities of a New York street with exit doors two storeys high, and a frame seed-store for the millionaire backed with a squared-off chunk of sky; however, he does the Harmonia Gardens proud, and his costumes present New York in the 1890s as the glittering, elegant and immaculately hygenic society we all know it was.

Irving Wardle



[redacted]

Television

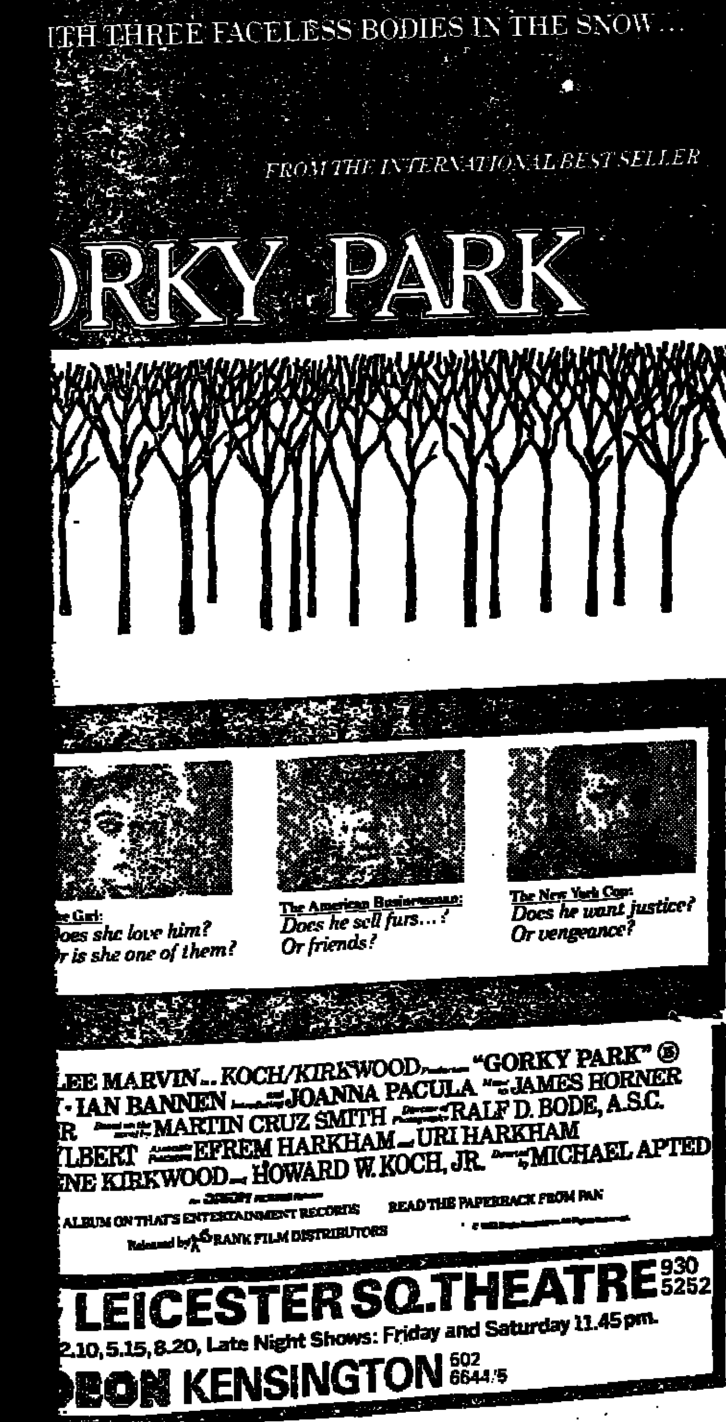
A sinful smell of suburbia

pavilion, merely sustained that general atmosphere so well summed in the phrase "cheap and cheerful".

On the whole, it was rather a lacklustre affair, and gave the impression that the success of situation comedies such as *Hi-de-Hi* has gone to somebody's head and then stubbornly refused to go anywhere else. But it does seem a pity that almost six hours of television time should be wasted in this extravagant fashion. That hardly seems to matter to anyone at the BBC, however – another series is already being planned.

Aunt Suzanne (BBC 2) was altogether a success. An aunt with an artifical leg comes to look after her dead sister's children in Northern Ireland, but her surreptitious drinking proves her undoing – a painful and not particularly promising story which was here precisely but eloquently treated. It was a very restrained play, an effect emphasized by the sobriety of the acting: even the children were acceptable, an almost unique event in television. Although it lacked the glossiness and the circumstantial detail which inform William Trevor's Irish plays, for example, the bareness and directness of the production only served to emphasize the themes of helplessness and constriction which it tackled in such an unsentimental manner.

Peter Ackroyd



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101¼	99½	Exch	11¼%	1984	100¾	..	11.225	8.679
104¾	101¾	Exch	14%	1984	101¾	..	13.775	9.407
97½	92¾	Exch	3%	1984	97⅛	+1/16	3.081	9.021
102⅝	100½	Treas	12%	1984	101¹³⁄₁₆	..	11.787	9.260
107⅝	104¾	Treas	15%	1985	105¼	..	14.269	9.971
107	101	Exch Cv	12%	1985	102¹⁵⁄₁₆	–1/16	11.729	9.903
94	88¾	Treas	3%	1985	94	..	3.191	7.688
102½	98½	Treas	11½%	1985	102¼	–1/16	11.261	9.977
102	95½	Treas C	8¾%	1985	98¾	–1/16	8.906	9.890
109¾	100¾	Exch	12½%	1985	109¼	+1/16	11.863	10.270

MARKET REPORT ● by Michael Clark

AE shares block sold

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, Dec. 30. Dealings end, Jan 13. Contango Day, Jan 16. Settlement Day, Jan 23.

There were signs of apprehension among the speculators yesterday as fears grew that the battle for control of AE, formerly Associated Engineering, would not be pursued once the Monopolies Commission gives its verdict.

Shares of AE dipped 1p to 69p as a line of 4.2 million shares, just under 5 per cent of the equity, was hurriedly placed with various institutions by broker Cazenove at 67½.

Earlier this week the board of AE changed its mind and decided to contest the £m bid from the engineering company Guest Keen & Nettlefolds after earlier recommending shareholders should accept the bid.

This change of heart follows a decision taken by the AE board that the company has a bright future as an independent company. GKN launched its three-for-eight all share offer back in July. Last night the offer was worth 66½p a share.

Sir Trevor Holdsworth, chairman of GKN, expressed his surprise at the AE decision. "We find it hard to reconcile what Mr Collyear has said in his chairman's statement with the letter he sent to shareholders in August recommending our offer," he said.

The FT index closed 1.5 down at 770.3 having been 2.8 down earlier in the day. Once again interest was directed to recovery situations and the usual rash of recommendations.

However, some brokers are looking for better things to come. Broker de Zoete & Bevan confirms that the equity market is moving sideways, but says the next major move will be upwards.

Armstrong Equipment will use £5.5m from the sale of its hydraulics subsidiary to Metair of South Africa to reduce borrowings. Yesterday the shares of Armstrong rose 3p to ... following news of a deal to supply parts for a new possible Volkswagen car to be built in China.

Gilts remained overshadowed by the falling pound which lost another cent on the foreign exchange to close at $1.4200. But losses of up to 50p at the longer end of the market were later wiped out to close with gains of £⅛.

The board of high-flyer Bellair Cosmetics has again been forced to comment on the present strength of the shares for the third time in less than nine months.

A statement issued yesterday said the directors noted the recent rise in the price, but are not aware of any factor which would cause it. "The price at which the shares are quoted bears no relationship to that established in the last report and accounts", it said.

Shares of Bellair were trading at about 12p this time last year when Wasskon Establishment, a privately owned Turkish company, bought Fenton Hill's 76 per cent stake in Bellair for 8p a share. Already this year the shares have hit £12.25, but yesterday lost £1 to £11.

Arthur Bell rose 3p to 133p encouraged by its attempts to diversify into the hotel trade. Yesterday it paid £6m for a 30 per cent stake in the Gleneagles Hotels and is now offering 225p a share or 173 of its own shares for every 100 Gleneagles for the remainder, valuing the whole deal at £20m. Bell says its pretax profits for the six months ended December were in the order of £18.7m against £17.6m last time.

Fund managers will have some hard thinking to do before this time next week. The second call on the Government's sale of BP shares is due next Wednesday at 235p a share. It brings the total price to 435p a share compared with last night's 398p close. Some support of the price is expected next week.

The brewery chief's expectations of a bumper Christmas have been reflected in the November beer production showing an increase of 7.4 per cent to 3.75 million barrels.

Broker de Zoete & Bevan says production is up by ½ per cent to 1 per cent on an annualized basis and has risen 3.3 per cent in the past six months. Take-home trade is reported to have been good, but publicans are said to be disappointed.

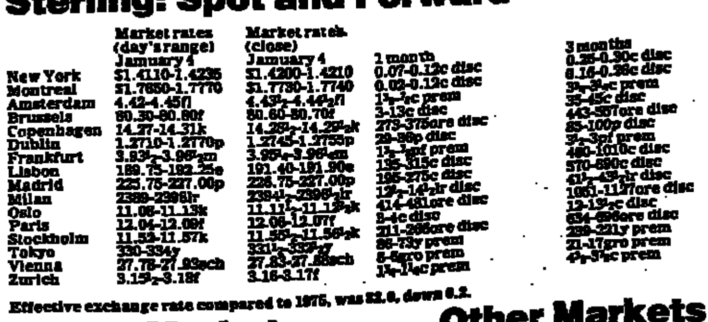
Brewery shares sparkled on the news with Allied-Lyons spurting 4p to 142p, Bass 6p to 311p, Belhaven 2p to 35p, H. P. Bulmer 3p to 218p, Greenhall Whitley 1p to 122p, Arthur Guinness 1p to 117p, Scottish & Newcastle 5p to 104½ and Whitbread 'A' 4p to 132p.

Honeywell Pnsion Trustees has bought a total of 443,000 shares in Cronite Group, the investment holding company. It now owns 7.5 per cent of the issued equity.

The Atlanta Investment Trust, which used to trade under the name Atlanta, Baltimore and Chicago Regional Investment Trust, has bought 875,000 shares in London Prudential Investment Trust. Atlanta says it has bought the stake, amounting to 14.58 per cent, as an investment.

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
134	87	Murray N'thn	134	+2	2.9	2.1	..
128	82	Do 'B'	125	–1	..	..	..
91	77½	Murray West	91	..	2.7b	3.0	..
87	72	Do 'B'	86	..	..	..	..
70	40	New Darien Oil	60	+1	0.4e	0.6	..
37	23½	N Throg Inc 85	34½	..	3.1b	9.1	..
27	20	Do Cap	25	..	..	..	..
304	137	New Tokyo	304	+6	..	..	..
244	132	North Atlantic	244	+1	4.3	1.8	..
142	107	Nth Sea Assets	117	..	4.3	3.7	..
227	178	Northern Amer	223	..	7.7	3.5	..
131	75	Oil & Associated	122	+1	6.3	5.1	..
283	230	Pentland	286	..	9.8	3.4	..
38	31	Personal Assets	35	..	..	..	..

Sterling: Spot and Forward



	Market rates (day's range) January 4	Market rates (close) January 4	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.4110-1.4235	$1.4200-1.4210	0.07-0.12c disc	0.25-0.30c disc
Montreal	$1.7650-1.7770	$1.7730-1.7740	0.02-0.12c disc	0.16-0.36c disc
Amsterdam	4.42-4.45fl	4.43½-4.44½fl	1¼-⅞c prem	3½-3⅛c prem
Brussels	80.30-80.80f	80.60-80.70f	3-13c disc	35-45c disc
Copenhagen	14.27-14.31k	14.28½-14.29½k	275-375ore disc	443-507ore disc
Dublin	1.2710-1.2770p	1.2745-1.2755p	29-39p disc	85-100p disc
Frankfurt	3.93½-3.96½m	3.95¼-3.96¼m	1½-¼pf prem	3½-3pf prem
Lisbon	189.75-192.25e	191.40-191.90e	135-315c disc	480-1010c disc
Madrid	225.75-227.00p	226.75-227.00p	195-275c disc	570-690c disc
Milan	2389-2398lr	2384½-2396½lr	12½-14½lr disc	41½-43½lr disc
Oslo	11.08-11.13k	11.11½-11.12½k	414-481ore disc	1061-1127ore disc
Paris	12.04-12.09f	12.06-12.07f	3-4c disc	12-13½c disc
Stockholm	11.52-11.57k	11.55½-11.56½k	211-266ore disc	634-698ore disc
Tokyo	330-334y	331½-332½y	88-73y prem	239-221y prem
Vienna	27.78-27.93sch	27.83-27.88sch	8-6gro prem	21-17gro prem
Zurich	3.15½-3.18f	3.16-3.17f	1½-1¼c prem	4¼-3¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 82.0, down 0.2.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 9%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 9 Low 4

Week Fixed: 9

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	8²³⁄₃₂	2 months	8⅞
3 months	8⅞	3 months	8²³⁄₃₂

Other Markets

Australia	1.5605-1.5645
Bahrain	0.5325-0.5355
Finland	8.3455-8.3855
Greece	141.80-143.80
Hongkong	11.0205-11.0605
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.4140-0.4170
Malaysia	3.3020-3.3320
Mexico	210-260
New Zealand	2.17-2.19
Saudi Arabia	4.9460-4.9760
Singapore	3.0045-3.0345
South Africa	1.7450-1.7605

Dollar Spot Rates

Euro-$ Deposits

Gold

THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Searching for the bid targets of 1984

Pity the wretched merchant banker plotting this year's takeovers. He knows that 1984 should be an open season for corporate predators. The equity market is riding a euphoric wave, the landscape is littered with the hulks battered by the recession, and for those who sailed through profits are booming. The prospects and the fees look juicy.

But how to pick the winners? To a large extent– of course, that is the client's decision. The predator must know what sort of business he wants to buy, and where. Yet for client and adviser there is a common problem: do the old formulae hold? Are the touchstones made familiar to the point of notoriety in the free-wheeling early 1970s valid today?

When the predator of old searched through his Extel cards (his latter day descendant enjoys the services of a computer) he concentrated on, among other things, four ratios: price-earnings, the discount of the share price to asset value, the return on assets, and cash. He was also interested in intangibles such as the quality of management and of earnings, the tightness with which the shares were held, and a company's strengths and weaknesses.

These tests are still indispensable. But a crude exercise, courtesy of Datastream, illustrates how misleading mere ratios can be. If, for example, our banker pushes the button asking for the 20 companies with capitalization of more than £50m which have the lowest ratio of earnings to capital employed he gets rows of noughts. And what is more, most of them are against the names of second line oil stocks such as Sovereign and Candecca.

On reflection, however, the reason is plain. Some companies simply have no earnings because they are engaged in exploration and not production. It does not follow, therefore, that companies with lowest ratio of earnings to assets are badly run and ripe for takeover. Similarly, a list of companies with the most cash relative to their balance sheets is dominated by financial service companies such as Mills & Allen and by insurance brokers, including, interestingly enough, the embattled Stenhouse Holdings. But that is because insurance is a cash business which needs little in the way of fixed assets.

But even using slightly more rigorous tests, such as those demonstrated in the accompanying tables, produces odd results. It may be true that the mighty Shell Transport and Trading is among the 10 companies, capitalized at more than £50m, with the lowest price/earnings ratio. At 6.4 it is not much more than half the average on the stock market. Nobody, however, seriously anticipates a bid for Shell – not this year anyway.

Help is at hand, however. If it is correct that company's share price reflects the totality of relevant information available, the measure of net assets to market capitalization should tell the would-be buyer whether a company is cheap. And so it does. The list is headed by Dunlop, and includes several of the engineering companies which have suffered most severely during the recession. There is no doubt that in these cases the market still takes a reserved view of the future – and the assets.

Yet here lies the prime problem. A model company which met all these tests might not be vulnerable to a takeover because the turnround time is too long. Lord Hanson could buy UDS because he saw the way in which its asset value could be unlocked quickly. What the merchant bankers knows above all i that his client must have the skill not merely to spot the situations but also to maximise the benefits from them. Conditions are ripe this year for takeovers (conditions which may themselves keep the market buoyant) but the pressure is on predators more than ever to give quick satisfaction to their shareholders. As every banker knows, today's predator can be tomorrow's victim.

COMPANIES COMPARED FOR '84

Price earnings ratio	
Rothmans International 'B'	3.1
Burnett & Hallams	4.4
Paterson Zochonis	5.0
First National Finance	5.4
Allied Irish Banks	6.2
Coats Patons	6.3
Shell Transport	6.4
B.A.T. Industries	6.7
Standard Chartered Bank	6.9

Net assets as % of market value	
Dunlop	458.2
Turner & Newall	268.0
Lucas Industries	264.7
Pilkington Bros	243.8
Westpool Inv. DFD	228.4
Burnett & Hallamshire	226.3
Westpool Inv. Trust	223.9
TI Group	218.5
Ocean Transport	211.6
AE	207.3

Shake-up starts at Inchcape

The retirement of the Earl of Inchcape from the group that bears his name seems destined to produce as big a shake-up as his retirement from the chair of his other family company P & O.

The first boardroom casualty of Sir David Orr's reign as chairman of Inchcape group, emerged yesterday. Mr Roy Davies, one of the group's eight senior executive directors, resigned just before Christmas and will leave at the end of the month, after almost 10 years with the group.

Mr Davies and Sir David disagreed on the future management policy of the international trading company whoe profits slumped from £71m to £50m in three years to the end of 1982 and whose half time results to last June were a disappointment to the City.

Neither side would comment yesterday, on whether the boardroom row was over the structure or the personnel involved in the future managment.

Sir David, who is currently travelling, took over from Lord Inchcape last summer, after retiring as head of Unilever. This summer he has to find replacements for two of his key senior directors, Mr Harold Foxon, the group managing director, and Mr James Ritchie, managing director responsible for Inchcape's African interests. They are both due for retirement. No statement has yet been made by the group on who will emerge as successor to run the company on a day to day basis.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Eagle Star urges bid acceptance

Sir Denis Mountain, chairman of Eagle Star, yesterday wrote to shareholders urging them to accept the 700p per share bid terms agreed with BAT Industries before the January 18 deadline for the offer.

He said that if the BAT offer is allowed to lapse, the Eagle Star share price would be likely to fall to a level substantially below the 700p being offered.

● **More than 1 million** overseas visitors came to the United Kingdom in October, and 11 per cent increase over the year before. Travellers from north America increased in numbers by more than a half, said the Department of Trade and Industry.

● **Mountleigh Group** is paying £4.25m in cash and one million of its shares to London and Northern Group for an office complex in Aberdeen. London and Northern intends to keep the one million shares representing about 14.3 per cent of Mountleigh's total, as an investment.

● **London Brick** shares fell 7p to 128p on the stock market yesterday as fears grew that a £170m takeover bid from Hanson Trust may be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. London Brick said yesteday that it had made a detailed submission to the Office of Fair Trading setting out the reasons why it believes that Hanson's offer should be referred.

● **English & Caledonian** has bought a 40 per cent stake in the Unicorn Organisation, the independent television production company headed by Mr Jack Gill, the former managing director of Associated Communications Corporation.

WALL STREET

Dow slips in early trading

New York (Reuter) – Wall Street stock prices were slightly lower in early trading yesterday as investors continued to trade cautiously because of interest rate fears.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 1½ points to about 1251. Overall, declining stocks held a slight lead over gainers. Volume was 21,710 million shares in the first hour of trading.

Eastman Kodak, which yesterday introduced a video camera, was off ¾ to 76¼ in active trading. RCA, which also introduced a camera, was unchanged at 34 and traded actively.

Analysts said they expected volume to pick up later but were uncertain if Megabuck institutional investors would launch a buying campaign. Mr Michael Metz of Oppenheimer said: "There is no urgency in either the buy or sell camp. Nobody is doing anything. I think it is going to take an external shocker to change this attitude."

"The market does not look like it knows what its going to do," said Mr Harry Villec of Sutro and Co, of Palo Alto, California. "If prices do not finish up for the week, then I would look for a dismal January performance," he said.

After a low of 1.4120, the pound came off the bottom at 1.4155 (overnight 1.4285), against the strong dollar.

Military ch[redacted] over Nige[redacted]

By Davi[redacted]

Nigeria's new military rulers have moved swiftly to defuse feats that the country might upset the fragile oil market by pushing up production or that it might be reluctant to continue talks on sorting out overdue debts.

The new regime, headed by Major-General Mohammed Buhari, has confirmed that it will stay in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) and has said that, if anything, it will play a stronger role in the oil producers' cartel.

In a telex sent to the Venezuelan energy department and released through official Opec channels, Nigeria said that it will not do anything or apply pressure of any nature which would effect the Opec price production agreement reached in London last March and ratified in Geneva six weeks ago.

Nigeria has also i[redacted] wants to continue [redacted] refinancing overdue t[redacted] estimated at between[redacted] to £4.5 billion. Of[redacted] expected to travel to[redacted] ton, as planned, in th[redacted] January 16 to negotia[redacted] billion loan and [redacted] programme with th[redacted] national Monetary Fu[redacted] coming to London [redacted] with Britain's Expor[redacted] Guarantee Department[redacted]

London bankers s[redacted] telephone with min[redacted] finance officials in[redacted] yesterday, who indica[redacted] debt negotiations wo[redacted] tinue as before. A team[redacted] G Warburg, Kuhn Lo[redacted] Lazard Frères, Nigeria[redacted] merchant bank advise[redacted] also proceed with a [redacted] visit to Lagos next week.[redacted]

Nigeria, which has th[redacted] Opec output ceiling [redacted]

The recent decision by the Nigerian Senate to withdraw its delegation from the December Opec meeting if a new production quota was not reached was, for that reason, dismissed as a bargaining lever by Opec.

The signs that Nigeria's new regime is intent on resolving the problems over its short-term trade debts, some of which are up to three years overdue, will be welcomed in Whitehall and by British companies.

Britain's ECGD is the largest official creditor and latest estimates put the amount of overdue debts it has guaranteed in Nigeria for British companies at £600m to £800m. The ECGD is due to play a key role in negotiations although it is insisting that any refinancing deal involves other countries' export credit agencies and there must also be progress in IMF talks.

Basil Collins: retired from Cadbury last week

Ex-Cadbury man may join Nabisco

By Jonathan Clare

Mr Basil Collins, who retired last week from Cadbury Schweppes where he was deputy chairman and chief executive is expected to be made chairman of the British arm of Nabisco Brands, the US company which took over Huntley & Palmer a year ago.

The appointment follows the unexpectedly early departure of Nabisco's current British chairman, Mr Brian Healey, back to Australia.

Mr Collins, an accountant, who was 60 last month, joined the old Schweppes company as overseas export director in 1958.

Yesterday a spokesman for Cadbury Schweppes said he was unaware of the appointment. Nabisco's snack products do not compete directly with Cadbury Schweppes confectionery. But the popularity of Nabisco snacks like Smiths and Walkers crisps and Planters Peanuts has eroded the traditional sweets market.

A spokesman for Nabisco conceded that the British arm did not have a chairman but said an official announcement would be made next week.

He added that Mr Healey had returned to Australia early because the reorganization of Nabisco's British interests had been completed in a year instead of the expected two. However, Mr Healey has not returned to his old job heading the Australasian operation, where he was said to have doubled Nabisco's profits in five years and an announcement about his future is expected soon.

Nabisco's chief executive is to be Mr John Greenias, a Canadian in his thirties, who arrived last month.

The coup of securing Mr Collins services is believed to have been achieved in a matter of days and previously some had expected that Mr Greenias would also take over the chair.

Mr Collins's retirement from Cadbury Schweppes was foreshadowed by the announcement last May that Mr Dominic Cadbury, the younger brother of Sir Adrian Cadbury, was chief executive-elect. Mr Robert Henderson has become deputy chairman.

ECGD[redacted] out 'wi[redacted]'

By Anthon[redacted]

The Export Credits G[redacted] tee Department has re[redacted] that it expects to exhau[redacted] cash reserves, invested i[redacted] Consolidated Fund, withi[redacted] next few months.

Sir Gordon Downey, [redacted] Comptroller and Auditor [redacted] eral, has reported to Parlian[redacted] "As a result of the high [redacted] ofclaims paid in respc[redacted] Political events, inclu[redacted] foreign exchange de[redacted] amounts owed to ECGD[redacted] other countries increased f[redacted] £450.9m at Mrch 31, 198[redacted] £748.5m at March 31, 1983."[redacted]

Over the same per[redacted] ECGD's combined cash [redacted] serves, in commercial [redacted] national interest accounts, [redacted] from £481.3m to £280.7m.

In its own report on [redacted] year's trading accounts, [redacted] ECGD said that there was[redacted] "strong probability" that [redacted] commercial account "m[redacted] move into cumulative ca[redacted] deficit by 1983-84; and it will [redacted] touch and go whether th[redacted] combined accounts move in[redacted] temporary deficit at some poi[redacted] in the year or two after that."

But since then, Sir Gordo[redacted] Downey reported, the positio[redacted] had deteriorated at an acceler[redacted] ated rate. He said: "At September 30, ECGD's combined[redacted] cash reserves had further[redacted] declined to an estimated[redacted] £150m."

He then added: "The depart-[redacted]

RIT sells 7% stake in Smith

By Wayne Lintott

RIT & Northern announced yesterday that it has sold its 7.72 per cent stake in Smith Brothers, one of London's two quoted stock jobbers.

N. M. Rothschild & Sons, London's leading bullion dealers, last month announced the acquisition of 29.9 per cent stake in Smith Brothers.

RIT had held a less than 5 per cent stake in Smith's for some years, but its 50 per cent associate in New York, L. F. Rothschild, Unterberg, Towbin bought into Smith's last November at 60p a share but that deal, at the time unbeknown to RIT in London, took RIT's total stake over the declarable limit of 5 per cent.

RIT said that it had sold the whole 1,002 million shares, but did not disclose the price. At the same time Investors in Industry announced that it had acquired 500,000 of the shares taking its direct stake to 1,250 million

RIT was virtually forced into the divestment because on acquiring a 29.9 per cent stake in brokers Kitcart & Aitken, it had promised not to take more than 5 per cent of any other member firm without consulting The Stock Exchange Council. But that obligation only meant that RIT should divest the 2.5 per cent acquired by the New York associate.

Cat among pigeons, page 16

[redacted]

Tebbit set for talks in India

By John Lawless

Trade and Industry Secretary Mr Norman Tebbit is to go to India at the weekend, it was announced yesterday, for talks which could be crucial for British export prospects.

India was Britain's boom market between 1978 and 1982, when sales trebled to a record £805m. Last year, however, trade levelled off, in value terms, and fell in real terms.

Competition is increasing significantly, though, with the Indians having recently recommitted themselves to a liberal import policy.

Although Britain is by far the biggest national aid donor to India, it last year maintained bilateral advances at the 1982 level of £110m.

It has had increasingly to show itself ready to use extra funds from the Aid and Trade Provision, the £66m set aside to secure specific contracts

ATP money accounted for £17m of the £110m in three-year aid, that was to go towards the £1.25 billion Davy contract for the Orissa steelworks.

That contract was controversially cancelled. But with British Steel continuing to negotiate for a £500m replacement scheme, to refurbish steelworks at Durgapur, in West Bengal, Mr Tebbit will almost certainly come under fresh pressure to deploy ATP resources.

[redacted] wins £8.4m [redacted]an contract

[redacted]ur Financial Staff

[redacted]

million battery cells a year. Even its Targoviste factory's output, at about 1 million cells, is probably twice as big as anything in Britain. A smaller unit at Tolbuchin is also to be refurbished.

Under Comecon industrial planning, Bulgaria has been designated eastern Europe's main electronics producer, having already been allocated a significant slice of the machine-building sector.

The latter role has seen Balkancar become the world's biggest producer of forklift trucks.

Bulgaria is also looking at BL's Roadtrain as a possible replacement for thousands of Bulgarian trucks providing freight services inside the country and in the Middle East and Africa. This business provides Bulgaria with its biggest hard currency earnings after tourism.

[redacted]

Recovery in gilts

The gilt edged market put up a fierce rearguard action yesterday in the wake of another poor performance by sterling on the foreign exchanges.

Longs wiped out falls of up to 50p to close with gains on the day of £⅛

However, turnover remained thin with institutions apparently continuing to enjoy their extended seasonal break.

The equity market continued to slide on lack of interest, but sentiment remained firm with leading brokers like de Zoete & Bevan still predicting a further improvement.

A firmer opening on Wall Street enabled share prices to close above their worst levels of the day with the FT index cutting its loss to 1.6 at 770.3, having been 2.8 down early on.

Once again interest directed to bids and the New Year recommendations. Brewery shares were in sparkling form

Sector leaders like Allied-Lyons added 4p to 142p, Bass 6p to 311p, Scottish & Newcastle 5p to 104½p and Whitbread "A" 4p to 132p.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 770.3 down 1.5
FT Gilts: 83.18 up 0.08
FT All Share: 470.89 up 0.86
Bargains: 17,725
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 98.36 up 0.43
New York: Dow Jones Average: 1256.49 up 3.75
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,927.11 up 33.29
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 877.26 up 6.20
Amsterdam: 170.8 up 1.8
Sydney: AO Index 780.3 down 2.6
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1052.4 down 8.2
Brussels: General Index 135.61 unch.
Paris: CAC Index 157.3 up 1.7
Zurich: SKA General 318.70 down 2.0

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling
$1.4205 down 80pts
Index 82.0 down 0.2
DM 3.9575 up 0.0175
FrF 12.0650 up 0.0100
Yen 332.00 up 0.25

Dollar
Index 131.1 up 1 1
DM 2.7880 up 0.0270

NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4175
Dollar DM 2.7875

INTERNATIONAL
ECU£0.571820
SDR£0.727214

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week fixed 9
3 month interbank 9⁷⁄₁₆-9⅜

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9⅞-10
3 month DM 6-5¾
3 month FrF 13¾-13½

US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 10
Treasury long bond 100⅞-100¹⁵⁄₁₆

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period December 7 1983 to January 3, 1984 inclusive: 9.492 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $376.50 pm $374.00
close $375.00-375.75 (£264.25-264.75)
New York (latest): $376.80
Krugerrand* (per coin): $386.50-388.00 (£272.50-273.50)
Sovereigns* (new): $88.00-89.00 (£62.00-62.75)
*Excludes VAT

[redacted]

$5.2bn deal to buy Getty Oil is agreed

New York (Agencies) – In a move that will give them complete ownership of Getty Oil, Pennzoil and Mr Gordon Getty have joined forces to buy 48 million shares of Getty Oil for $110 a share, or $5.28 billion (£3.56 billion).

Getty Oil has accepted the proposal which values the company at $9 billion.

The agreement followed two days of meetings of the Companys 16-member board of directors and involved Mr Sidney Petersen, Chairman of Getty, Mr J. Hugh Liedtke, chairman of Pennzoil, Mr Gordon Getty, trustee of the Sarah P. Getty Trust, and Mr Harold Williams, president of the J. Paul Getty Museum.

Mr Gordon Getty is the second son of the late J. Paul Getty.

The four parties agreed to the transaction which, because of its size, involves Mr Gordon Getty becoming a partner with Pennzoil.

Last Tuesday, Pennzoil offered to buy 20 per cent of Getty's stock for $100 a share, or $1.6 billion in cash.

Mr Liedtke said at the time that he had $2.5 billion in bank credit lines from a group of banks headed by Citibank and another $300 million in company funds. It is not known where the balance of the funds will come from.

The Sarah Getty Trust, named after the mother of the late J. Paul Getty, owns 40.2 per cent of the Getty oil stock. The Getty Museum owns 11.8 per cent.

Pennzoil and the trust have agreed in principle to try to restructure Getty oil before the end of the year. If they are unable to agree on a plan they will sell the assets of Getty Oil.

Getty shareholders other than Pennzoil and the trustee will receive $110 a share in cash plus the right to receive a deferred cash consideration. This will be equal to a pro rata share of the net after-tax proceeds of more than $1 billion from the disposal of the ERC Corporation, the Getty Oil reinsurance subsidiary. Under the formula each shareholder will receive at least $5 a share within five years.

Before the merger Pennzoil will contibute about $2.6 billion in cash and the trustees and Pennzoil will contribute the Getty Oil shares owned by them to the new entify. Last week's tender offer by a Pennzoil subsidiary for shares of Getty Oil will be withdrawn.

The agreement in principle provides that Getty Oil will grant Pennzoil an option to purchase 8 million Treasury shares for $110 each.

A Getty spokesman said that following completion of the deal, the trust administered by Mr Gordon Getty will own four-sevenths of the outstanding common stock of Getty Oil.

Murdoch seeking satellite 'launch pad' say analysts

High stakes in Warner poker game

From Bailey Morris and Nick Gilbert in New York

Wall Street analysts appeared convinced yesterday that Mr Rupert Murdoch's surprise move to buy as much as 49.9 per cent of Warner Communications would be a slow process which could be a dominant force in market news for much of 1984.

The consensus among leading analysts is that the plans announced by Mr Murdoch's News Corporation represented no a financial speculation, but a serious effort to acquire film and production capabilities necessary to launch his satellite pay TV network which was delayed late last year.

"I am convinced this is more serious than an investment. The company delayed launch of its satellite system because it had no film product and this in one way of getting it," said Mara Niesnieks, entertainment analyst for Smith Barney Harris & Upham.

Whatever the motivation, Wall Street analysts expected the $800m to $1 bilion struggle for control of Warner Communications to one of the most hotly contested duels the Street has seen in years among three colourful, highly motivated protagonists.

The immediate impact on markets, however, is expected to be minimal since under provisions of the News Corporation filing, the company must wait 30 days before buying additional Warner shares to meet US antitrust requirement.

Warner's stock opened yesterday unchanged at 27½ a share, a figure reflected in a minimum block trade of 85,000 shares which moved early in the day.

Analysts said the 30 day waiting period will give markets time to reflect on the stakes involved in the battle for Warner Communications which took a surprising turn on Tuesday when News Corporation disclosed that it planned to increase its holdings from 7 per cent to as much as 49.9 per cent.

The plans were disclosed in keeping with the antitrust provisions of the Hart-Scott-Rodino Act which required the company to notify Warner Communications, the US Justice Department and the Federal Trade Commission of its intentions.

Analysts noted that in choosing to seek the extra shares under a Hart-Scott-Robina filing, News Corporation was limited to a maximum of 49.9 per cent which explained why Mr Murdoch did not seek a controlling interest of more than 50 per cent as might have been expected.

Indeed, the disclosure made it clear that News Internationals immediate intentions may be limited to buying no more than 25 per cent of Warner.

The unexpected announcement and the conditions it outlined did, however, lead to a flurry of rumours and speculation on Wall Street over what it all meant.

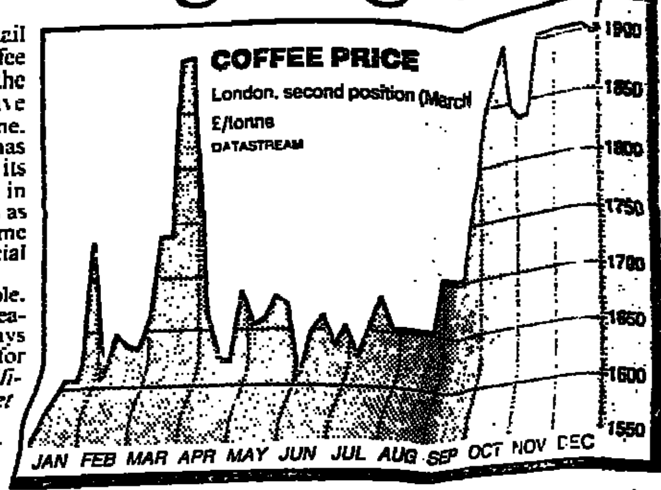
Generally, Mr Murdoch's announcement was regarded as an aggressive reaction to the earlier announced plan by Warner and Chris-Craft Industries to fend off an unwanted takeover by entering into a joint arrangement to increase Chris-Craft's holdings in Warner to 25 per cent.

"This latest bid by Murdoch sets the stage for an interesting poker game among three fast players who are used to playing for high stakes", one analyst said.

In addition to Mr Murdoch, the players involved are Mr Steven Ross, the colourful head of Warner who has led the communications company since 1971 and Mr Herbert Siegel, a Ross ally and head of Chris-Craft Industries

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Michael Prest

Can coffee gain ground?



Will another increase in retail tea prices encourage coffee consumption? For most of the postwar period the two have been deadly rivals in the home, not least because coffee has slowly but surely increased its popularity. The latest rise in world tea prices, which looks as though it could stick for some months, should on a superficial view be good for coffee.

Alas, life is not so simple. Coffee prices have been weakening over the past few days and there are several reasons for arguing that room for significant rise on the terminal market is limited.

The most important factor militating against a much higher coffee price is the effectiveness of the International Coffee Agreement. The second position price rose continuously from about £1,700 a tonne at the end of September, when the new coffee pact came into operation, to more than £1,900 before Christmas.

But this very rise brought the International Coffee Organisation's 15 day moving average indicator price to 140 cents a pound.

At that magic point exporters are allowed to sell another million of bags (60 kilogrammes each), and the extra quota was duly released last month.

So, despite the January to March quarter being traditionally fairly active, and regardless of the fact that eager exporters have already sold their quotas for the quarter, a pretty tight lid is clamped on coffee prices.

Moreover, on the consumer side, the evidence from long experience is that tastes change slowly. It is ture that British coffee consumption has crept up from an annual average of 2 kilogrammes per capita 10 years ago to 2.3 in 1983.

But that in itself suggests that a prolonged change in the relative prices of tea and coffee is needed to tip the balance one way or the other.

Financial services

A refreshing paper from Dr John Ginarlis and his team at Quilter Goodison & Co argues the case for revaluation of the clearing banks' shares in the wake of the revolution in the financial services sector.

The paper points out that with composite insurers selling on an average multiple of 16.6 times earnings and insurance brokers on a multiple of 11.2, the clearing banks look absurdly cheap on their prospective miltiple of 6.9. Moreover, a theoretical breakdown of the banks' component financial service parts gives discounts of up to 70 per cent at current prices according to Quilter's calculations.

Part of the problem has been the depressing effect on profits of bad debts, particularly in Latin America, and also the threat of new moves to tax bank profits. However, the paper begs the question of whether these factors should outweigh the more traditional methods of valuing companies in terms of their assets and earnings.

Recent interest in the financial service sector has merely widened the gap between the banks and other finanical services companies. This is despite signs that the clearers are waking up to the opportunities which are open to them through their existing financial services activities.

All this in a sector where the underlying level of profits for 1984 at Barclays is £1 billion, at Lloyds £675m, and National Westminster £775m. It is also an industry which is in the process of increasing its prices by 40 per cent in a year when the RPI is likely to rise by 5 per cent.

Hollas Group

Hollas Group, the Manchester garment importers, has disposed of its burdensome British manufacturing interests, but now the strength of the US dollar is conspiring against it.

Interim pretax profits to the end of September were fractionally ahead at £423,000 compared with £412,000, yet after allowing for the Threll losses pretax profits are down 15 per cent.

Margins on the imports from Hongkong, which are financed in US dollars, have been sharply compressed.

Grindlays names new chairman

Grindlays Holdings and Grindlays Bank: Mr Alexander Ritchie, formerly deputy chariman, has succeeded Mr Nigel Robson as chairman.

P & O Cruises: Mr Len Scott has become deputy chairman. Mr Alan Langley, currently deputy managing director, succeeds Mr Scott as managing director.

Baring Brothers & Co: Mr W. Backhouse, Mr A. M. G. Baring, Mr G. S. Cass and Mr N. E. Melville have been made directors. Mr P. E. Bugge, Mr R. C. Daniels, Mr I. C. Dickson, Mr J. M. A. Menendez, Mr A. M. Pearce, Mr R. J. Raynar, The Hon. J. H. T. Russell, Mr V. R. Russell, Mr A. B. Swann and Mr J. W. White have been appointed assistant directors of the bank. Mr Raynar has been appointed managing director of Baring Brothers SA in Geneva. He remains managing director of Baring Brothers (France) SA in Paris.

J. Bibby & Sons: Mr John N. Maltby, executive chairman of Burmah Oil, has joined the board as a non-executive director.

Nationwide Building Society: Mrs Rosemary Day and Miss Katharine Whitehorn have become directors.

Alvis: Mr David B. Brittain has joined the board as technical director. Mr Brittain succeeds Mr John Hedges who will remain a director until his retirement in November 1984.

Alliance Building Society: Mr Ken Chapman has retired as genéral manager (marketing) and is succeeded by Mr Tim Myers.

Lloyd's Aviation Underwriters' Association: Mr T O Pitron has been reelected chairman and Mr D J Peachey was reelected deputy chairman of the association for the coming year. Other members of the committee for 1984 are as follows: Messrs. A J Avery, B Coleman, R F Eliot, R H Gibbs, P J Hubert, R J Maylam, P G Stilwell, J P Tilling, E O Walklin and J A Westcott.

Wigham Poland: Mr Timothy Ablett has been appointed financial controller and also becomes a director of Wigham Poland Management Services. Mr Peter Sutherland, chief accountant, becomes a director of Wigham Poland Management Services.

Turner & Newall Group: Mr D G Carruthers has become chairman of TBA Industrial Products, in succession to Mr D W Hills, who will remain a member of the TBA board.

Wayne Lintott meets an heir to 19th century wheeler-dealing

A Rothschild puts the cat among City's pigeons

In the early nineteenth century Mayer Amschel Rothschild sent his five sons to the capitals of Europe to start up banks. They were to be geographically diverse enough to expand and to provide the protection necessary for the family to survive the revolutionary turbulence of Europe and the antisemitic environment of their Frankfurt base.

The dominant of those sons, Nathan Mayer, came to London and in 1809 established N.M. Rothschild & Co. He was to play an important part in financing the European allies' war against Napoleon and nearly 100 years later the Rothschilds were still helping to finance the war against Hitler.

Nathan, was best known for his far sightedness and wheeler-dealing, risk-taking flair. If any of the descendents of Nathan are to stand comparison then Jacob Rothschild, 47, would best fit the mould.

The present restructuring of Britain's Stock Exchange will lead to radical changes of London's financial institutions, presently dwarfed by those of Japan and the US.

Of the European groups capable of forming a Hydra-headed coglomerate, the international businesses of the Rothchilds might seem most suitable.

But there is no chance of such a merger taking place. The idea is one that appeals to Jacob Rothschild but years ago tensions arose from the Rothschilds' failure to integrate and become such a force. Even now he regrets that the personal fiefdoms could not achieve Amschel's vision.

In 1980 Jacob became publicly divorced from his cousin Evelyn at N. M. Rothschilds and began life anew with what had been the Rothschild Investment Trust.

He shares the view, and has done for many yeas, that the tightly closed doors of the Stock Exchange club should be thrown open and that the inevitable result will be many multi-faceted financial service companies.

These companies will encompass insurance, credit of all forms, options, futures, equities, domestic and international bonds, stock issues, fund management, money broking, foreign exchange trading, mortgages, financial, legal and travel advice.

"They will be served up and sold throughout the world for 24 hours a day," he says.


Jacob Rothschild: "Why kill yourself making money?"

He accepts that not all the leading British institutions will want to become involved in such a complicated business but one or two must and that American companies have so far proved keenest to buy into British stockbrokers. New York, it must be remembered, has already gone through the processes only now taking place in London.

The changes in New York resulted in a merger between the world's largest insurance company, the American Prudential, with brokers Bache. They have already caused an upset in London by poaching senior staff and setting up their own brokerage house.

The mantel of flying Britain's flag is not one Jacob Rothschild intends assuming. "No, I don't envisage an all encompassing entity. We will work more on the wholesale than the retail side. We already have strengths but there is an enormous amount to do. It is too early to say how we will evolve eventually, at the moment the businesses are a Noah's Ark of operations."

His recent coup, the £400m merger with the Charterhouse Group, has created Charterhouse J Rothschild. Its assets top £1.5 billion but it is still a minnow in international terms.

He put the cat among the pigeons in a recent City speech by claiming that the emoluments of London's traders are too small. Some gasps had accompenied stories in London that some dealers had earned £300,000 a year in salaries and commissions.

He pointed out that in New York, chief executives earn more than £1m a year and in the New York brokers, Rothschild, Unterberg, where his own company has a 50 per cent stake, no less than six will receive more than a $1m (£700,000).

He sees CJR's main task in the short-term as consolidating its expertise. "But that does not exclude other things. It is certainly not the end of the story. We can gain strength by adding pieces to the jigsaw puzzle."

Unlike his relations, he does not consider it important to control the companies he heads. "I do have a significant material interest, several million shares in fact, but it is irrelevant to one's power base. I think exposure to shareholder democracy is a good discipline. Certainly, one does not need the protective clothing of non-elected royalty."

That attitude has manifested itself in allowing his experts an equity stake in the businesses they run under the CJR umbrella and in bringing in heavyweight individuals as associates.

Jacob Rothschild is keenly watched because of his attitudes and most people in the City do not doubt that he is leading the way in London. As far back as 1970, when he joined the board of RIT, then still under the bank's control, he acquired a holding in London's premier jobbing firm of Wedd, Durlacher Mordaunt. That holding was divested by Wedd buying back the stake, at a substantial premium, which may be convenient as Wedd has just closed its New York operations after a legal dispute with Merrill Lynch and Lehman Brothers.

Since then a plethora of deals has taken a company capitalized at £2.3m coupled to total assets of £7.1m in 1970 into a financial services group capitalized at £400m with assets of over £1.5 billion.

Jacob Rothschild breaks the past 13 years into four phases. The first two lasted for six years. The next, including the formation of RIT management, also lasted six years. Phase four began in April, 1982, when RIT merged with the Great Northern Investment Trust. In the course of that deal RIT broke off its somewhat controversial ties with Mr Saul Steinberg's Reliance Group.

After that the financial services company for the 1980s really began to form. A series of moves brought a stake in Kitcat & Aitken, the acquisition of a stake in L. F. Rothschild, Unterberg, Towbin – something N. M. Rothschild had failed to achieve – and the merger with Charterhouse.

Apart from wanting to see abolition of stamp duty on stock exchange deals, Jacob Rothschild thinks "the Government has done what it can. A clear regulatory framework is important but that is the province of the Bank of England and the City. It is still too much of a patchwork and it is important that it be made clear soon."

The cut-and-thrust of dealing is still important to him. In the biggest takeover battle Britain has seen, for the Eagle Star insurance group, RIT held several million shares.

His present holdings are almost entirely centred on the financial services sector, including insurance companies and banks but not the much-rumoured stake in insurance brokers Hogg Robinson.

What is his motivation? "I find it extremely interesting to help create a company involved in international finance. Why kill yourself making money? I just happen to enjoy this, at the moment."

Italian steel group in cash crisis

Rome (Reuter) – Finsider, the Italian state-owned steel holding group, needs an immediate injection of capital to meet its commitments this month, say company officials.

A shareholders' meeting has been called for January 16 to examine the group's "continuing, extremely serious financial situation," a Finsider statement said.

Finsider, a subsidiary of the state industial holding company IRI, lost 1,620 billion lire (£672m) in the first nine months of last year, after a 1,436 billion lire loss the year before. Like other steel companies in Europe, it has suffered from shrinking markets due to recession, and increased competition.

The Italian Government has so far failed to approve a Finsider plan which foresees a state subsidy of 3,00 billion lire, this year an a further 2,000 billion lire next.

Yesterday's statement said that unless there was an immediate capitalization, "serious anxieties exist about the group's ability to cover its commitments falling due in January."

The FLM metalworkers' union said there was concern about the payment of salaries and the bills of suppliers.

Under Italian company law Finsider is obliged to seek new capital if the annual loss exceeds one-third of its existing share capital of 3,770 billion lire.

The cabinet of Signor Bettino Craxi's the prime minister, is divided over the timing and extent of recapitalization but must make up its mind by the shareholders' meeting, industry sources said.

January 16 is also the dealine for Italy to five a detailed reply to the European Commission about a requested reduction of 5.8 million tonnes in the country's iron and steel production capacity.

Grosvenor in bid for old electrical firm

By Jonathan Clare

Grosvenor Group, the old Wellco Holdings run by Mr Brian Hazzard, has made an unusual part bid for an old, privately owned electrical company which makes elements for most household name domestic appliances.

The firm is called Backer Electric Company with shareholders scattered throughout the US and Scandinavia.

Grosvenor is offering 235p a share to acquire 76.58 per cent of Backer, which is of Scandinavian origin. The balance of the shares is in the hands of two directors including Mrs Backer-Sunnegardh, a member of the founding family who will remain on the board. The other directors are recommending Grosvenor's terms.

Another shareholder with just over 18 per cent of the shares has said it will accept the offer.

The bid values Backer at £1.3m and will cost Grosvenor £990,000 in cash.

European buy-out at Carborundum group

By Derek Pain

Control of the European abrasive businesses of the American Carborundum group has been acquired by the British directors and City institutions in a £2.650m management buy-out.

Granville and Company which runs the City's largest over-the-counter market, organized the deal and will start making a market in the shares of Carborundum Abrasives today.

Nine City institutions are putting up £1m towards the buy-out. The management's contribution is almost £300,000 and National Westminster Bank has provided a medium-term £1.5m loan.

NatWest has also made available overdraft facilities of

Carborundum was a New York-quoted company until 1978. It was then taken over by Kennecott Corporation, which in turn was acquired by Standard Oil of Ohio.

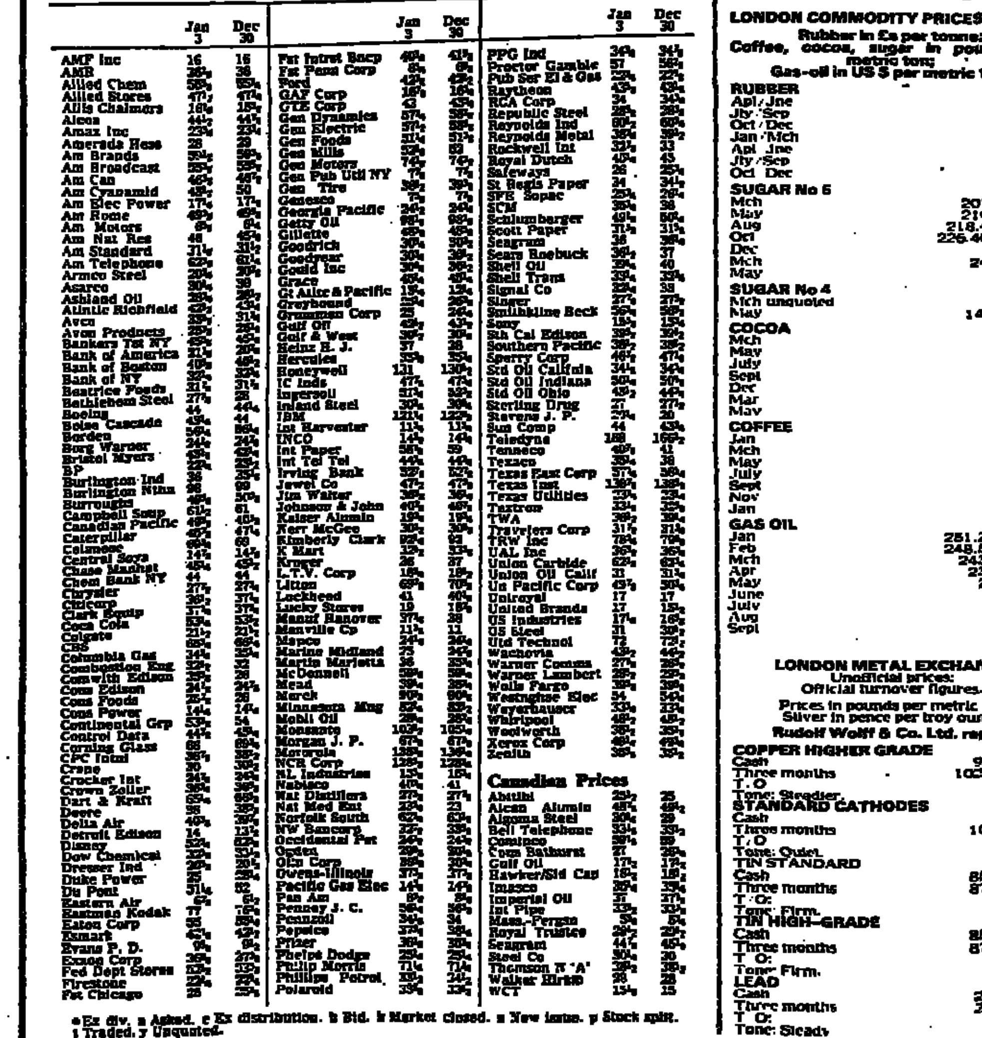
Sohio said last March that it intended to dipose of its world-wide abrasive business and this decision provided the opportunity for the British management, drafted in during 1981 to turn the company round, to agree the buy-out.

The full cost of the acquisition would have been more than £10m. But a quirk in US tax laws meant the buy-out was cut to £2.650m.

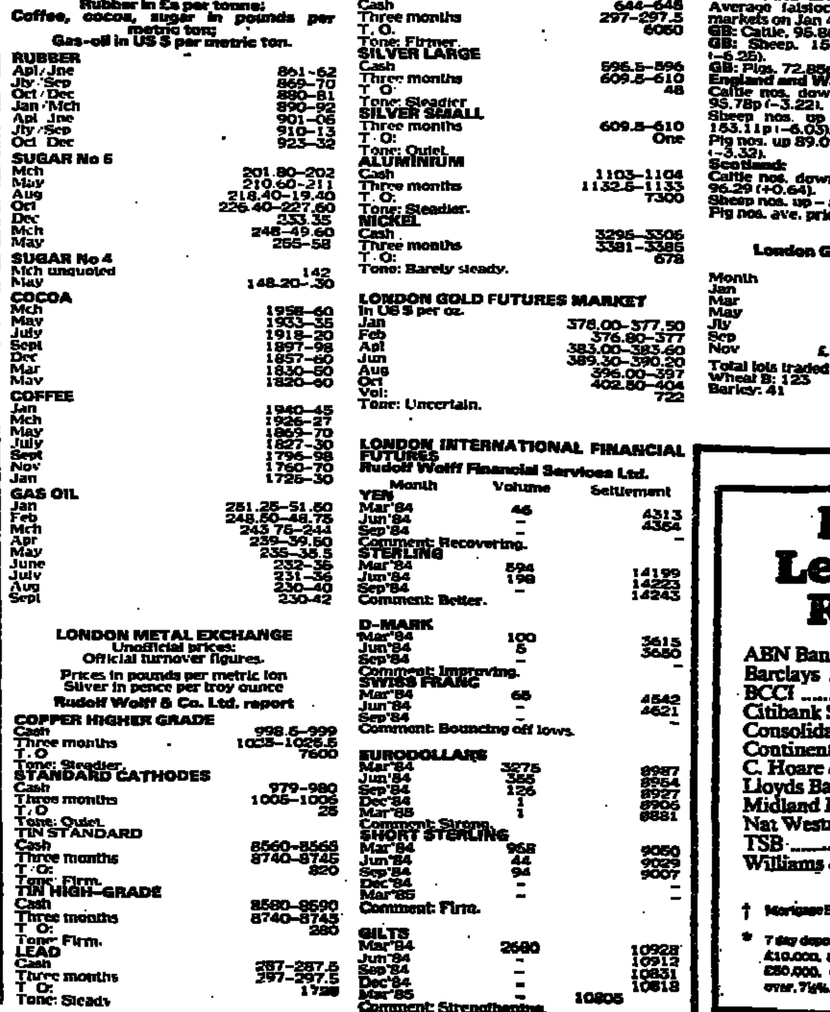
The institutions have put up their £1m by buying 300,000 £1 ordinary shares and 700,000 £1 preference shares. The preference shares have some conversion right if Carborundum's profits fail to top £1m.

In the first nine months of last year the company lost £3.4m, but action taken by the management, included cutting the workforce and eliminating technical fees, is expected to allow the profits forecast to be met.

WALL STREET

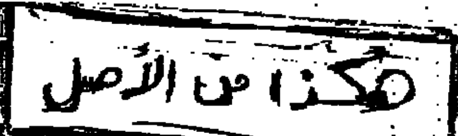


COMMODITIES



Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	†10½%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%



CRICKET: ENGLAND ARRIVE, GREAT PLAYERS DEPART, A[redacted]

TCCB block a move by New Zealand to impose fines on slow over-rate

From Derek Hodgson, Auckland

A move by the New Zealand Cricket Council to impose monetary penalties on teams failing to bowl 14 overs an hour has been blocked by the Test and County Cricket Board. The disagreement is something of an embarrassment to England, as Alan Smith, the manager, admitted soon after the team's arrival here last night from Fiji.

"We happen to believe very firmly in 16 overs an hour and 96 overs a day. The New Zealand board believes in something different, so we have agreed to differ and let the laws of the game apply," he said.

England's objection, I understand, is not to the suggested over-rate but to the method of punishment. They would prefer to insist on 96 overs a day, with no fines but teams having to fulfil their quota of overs each day and play being extended when necessary.

Other points to emerge from the first press conference were that Ian Botham may be called upon to help maintain the fitness of the side. "We would be delighted to use him if we can," Mr Smith added. There will be £25,000 in prize-money offered for the three test matches and three one-day internationals and the man of the series will be presented with a Japanese car. Can Japanese sponsorship be far behind?

England will now practice for two days before the opening three-day fixture against Auckland, which starts on Saturday. Cowans has recovered from a stomach upset and Willis, the England captain, told the New Zealand press: "Our doctor believes the team to be fitter than when they arrived in Australia last winter. We have eight batsmen seeking six places and very keen competition among the seam bowlers.

Willis was asked to comment upon Dennis Lillee's retirement. Did he compare himself with Lillee and did he ever think of Lillee's records? Willis gave a suitable dignified answer: "Lillee is the best bowler I have ever seen. If anyone compares me with Lillee I will be extremely flattered."

● WELLINGTON: New Zealand's improved Test match performances in recent years have been achieved at a cost to team unity, according to Martin Snedden, their seam bowler (Reuter reports). Snedden, a member of New Zealand's team in England last year, claimed attitudes within the side had deteriorated over the past few years, coinciding with an increase in payments to team members.

"I do not doubt we have improved, but I think it has been at some cost to team unity," Snedden said at a cricket function in Alexandra, South Island. "The attitude of the team as a whole should be reassessed before the coming Test series against England."

In the final Test match against Sri Lanka last year, New Zealand's players were involved in a financial discussion five minutes before they were to take the field, Snedden said. "It's a terrible indictment of the team's attitude at that stage."

Meanwhile, Richard Hadlee, the New Zealand all-rounder, attacked the state of the pitch at Lancaster Park, Christchurch, the venue of the second Test against England starting on February 3.

Hadlee yesterday warned that the Test match could be over in three days if the pitch continued to play unpredictably, and that batsmen face serious injury on it. He said in recent matches the pitch not only gave unexpected lift but some balls kept very low, giving batsmen no chance to dig them out.

"It is really a big scare with the Test not too far away. Imagine Willis and their attack on it. Somebody could be seriously injured," Hadlee added.

Smith: agreed to differ

West Indians meet their match

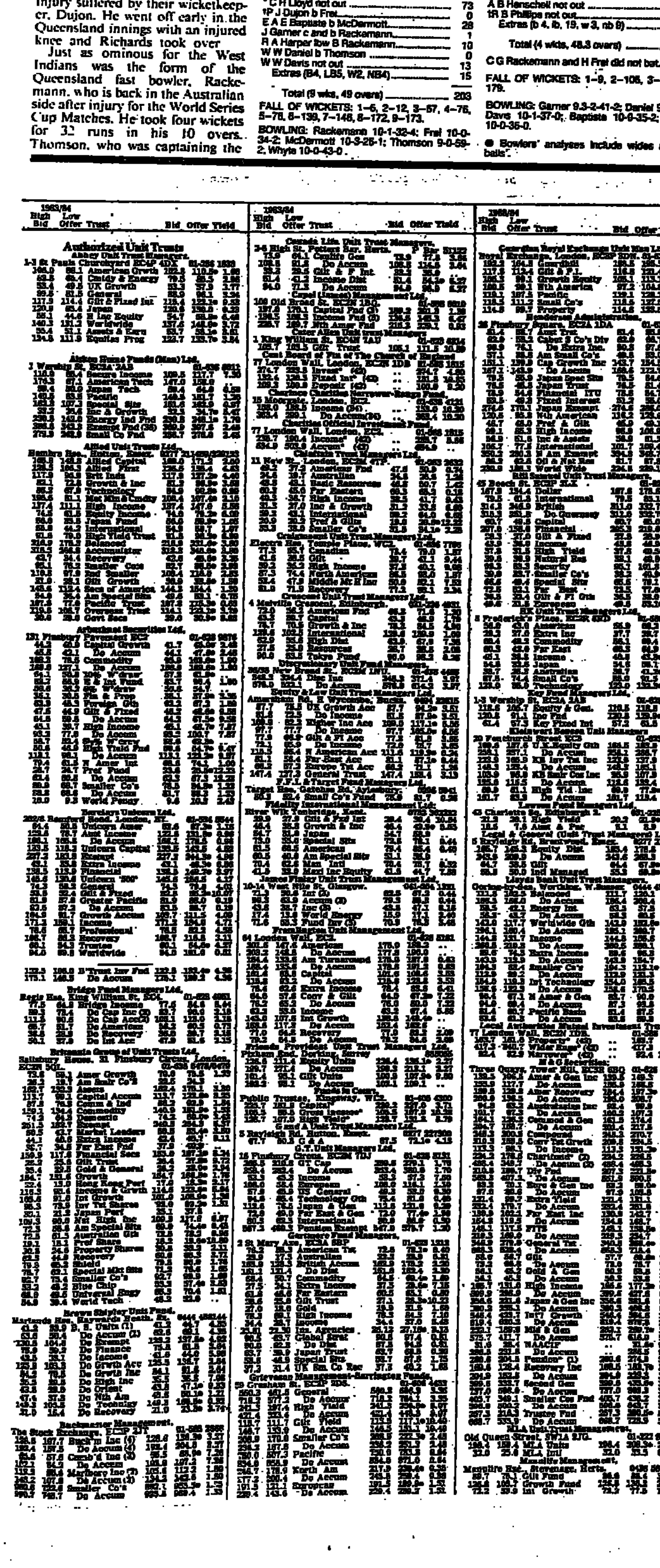
Brisbane (Reuter) – The West Indians, unbeaten on their three-month tour of India which ended last week, lost their opening match in Australia yesterday, going down by six wickets to Queensland. Phillips, the wicketkeeper, hit the winning run with three balls to spare.

West Indies launch the one-day World Series Cup against Australia on Sunday and perhaps more upsetting than the defeat was an injury suffered by their wicketkeeper, Dujon. He went off early in the Queensland innings with an injured knee and Richards took over.

Just as ominous for the West Indians was the form of the Queensland fast bowler, Rackemann, who is back in the Australian side after injury for the World Series Cup Matches. He took four wickets for 32 runs in his 10 overs. Thomson, who was captaining the state team in the absence of Chappell on Test match duty, bowled Richards for 33, but his nine overs cost 59 runs.

The West Indians, who were sent in to bat, were once again indebted to their captain, Lloyd, for holding the batting together. Half the side was out for 76 but Lloyd's 73 ensured a worthwhile total.

Garner, who missed the Indian tour while he rested a shoulder injury, removed the Queensland opener for six, but the rest of the state batsmen all made useful contributions



WEST INDIANS:

*R S Gabriel c Whyte b Rackemann	2
D L Haynes c Phillips b Frei	24
R B Richardson b Rackemann	4
†I V A Richards b Thomson	33
* C H Lloyd not out	73
†P J Dujon b Frei	0
E A E Baptiste b McDermott	28
J Garner c and b Rackemann	1
R A Harper lbw B Rackemann	10
W W Daniel b Thomson	0
W W Davis not out	13
Extras (B4, LB5, W2, NB4)	15
Total (9 wks, 49 overs)	203

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–6, 2–12, 3–57, 4–76, 5–76, 6–139, 7–148, 8–172, 9–173.

BOWLING: Rackemann 10-1-32-4; Frei 10-0-34-2; McDermott 10-3-26-1; Thomson 9-0-59-2; Whyte 10-0-43-0.

QUEENSLAND:

R B Kerr c Lloyd b Garner	6
A Courtice c Lloyd b Baptiste	41
G M Ritchie c Haynes b Baptiste	42
G Trimble b Garner	22
A B Henschell not out	45
†R B Phillips not out	13
Extras (b 4, lb 19, w 3, nb 9)	35
Total (4 wkts, 48.3 overs)	204

C G Rackemann and H Frei did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–9, 2–106, 3–113, 4–179.

BOWLING: Garner 9.3-2-41-2; Daniel 9-0-32-0; Davis 10-1-37-0; Baptiste 10-0-35-2; Harper 10-0-36-0.

● Bowlers' analyses include wides and no-balls.

Emotion at the altar of a Chappell royal

From Ian Brayshaw
Sydney

For the second successive day of the fifth Test match between Australia and Pakistan here events out in the middle were overshadowed, yesterday's distraction being the announcement of Dennis Lillee's retirement from the international stage. But the termination of the illustrious career of the world record holder in Test wicket-taking could not take all of the limelight away from Greg Chappell, who on Tuesday intimated that he was playing in his last Test.

Chappell, promoted to his customary position of No 4 in the batting order and given a standing ovation the whole way out to the wicket, was the centre of attention as he made his way towards the record for the highest number of runs scored by an Australian in Tests.

That record was held by Sir Donald Bradman at 6,996 and, as Chappell took guard at the end of his emotional walk to the wicket, memories took many spectators back to Sir Donald's final Test appearance in 1948, at the Oval when he was bowled second ball for a duck.

There was no such fate for Chappell, who pushed and prodded his way through to lunch and then batted on through to the close of play when he was unbeaten on 79. When he had scored 44 Chappell passed Sir Leonard Hutton's career total of 6,971 runs to become the seventh highest run-scorer in Tests. When he reached 69 he received a thunderous acclamation for having overtaken Bradman.

The record came to Chappell with three overthrows and he raised his bat in unconcealed delight. The first to congratulate him was the man to whom he handed the captaincy last season, Hughes. The pair of them were still together at the close, their partnership of 159 having taken Australia to within 36 of Pakistan's first innings score.

With seven wickets still in hand and with two days' play remaining, Australia have a fine chance of registering a big first-innings lead and going on to extend their 1–0 lead in the series.

PAKISTAN: First innings 278 (Mudassar Nazar 84, Zaheer Abbas 61; G F Lawson 5 for 59).

AUSTRALIA First innings

K C Wessels c Wasim Bari b Azeem	3
W B Phillips c Salim b Sarfraz	37
G N Yallop c Wasim Bari b Mudassar	30
G S Chappell not out	79
*K J Hughes not out	76
Extras (l-b9, n-b8)	17
Total (3 wkts)	242

A R Border, G R J Matthews, †R W Marsh, G F Lawson, R M Hogg and D K Lillee to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–11, 2–68, 3–83.

BOWLING: Sarfraz 28-7-65-1; Azeem 20-5-69-1; Mudassar 17-7-33-1; Qadir 29-6-76-0.

Kirsten still captain

Cape Town (Reuter)–Peter Kirsten, who led the South Africans to victory over the West Indian XI on Tuesday, will remain captain for the next three one-day matches.

Lillee[redacted]valley of his dreams

By John Woo[redacted]
Cricket Corresp[redacted]

The epithet "gre[redacted] negligently used ab[redacted] men. Greg Chappell[redacted] and Dennis Lillee, [redacted] chosen the occasion [redacted] Test match between[redacted] and Pakistan in S[redacted] announce their retiren[redacted] international cricket,[redacted] deed been great exp[redacted] their respective trades[redacted]

Lillee hopes to pl[redacted] rest of the season wit[redacted] Australia. Neither [redacted] though, will appear fo[redacted] lia in a Test again. T[redacted] wish to play in Sout[redacted] where they would be a[redacted] an enthusiastic welco[redacted] that is unlikely to hap[redacted] while. They could b[redacted] there by Rod Marsh, [redacted] survivor of that uncomp[redacted] school of cricketers w[redacted] into the Australian side[redacted] England in 1970-71 and[redacted] disciples of Ian C[redacted] brother of Greg.

For two or three year[redacted] middle 1970s Lillee an[redacted] Chappell helped to [redacted] Australia the toughest a[redacted] successful side in the [redacted] With Thomson, then at h[redacted] as Lillee's partner, Engla[redacted] West Indies were rou[redacted] successful Australian s[redacted] (1974-75 and 1975-76). I[redacted] came the defection to [redacted] Packer and, since the r[redacted] chement in 1979-80, Aus[redacted] have never been the same[redacted] again.

Individually, however, C[redacted] pell, Lillee and Marsh [redacted] continued to build upon [redacted] remarkable records. It mu[redacted] doubtful whether any side[redacted] again will contain a batsma[redacted] bowler, and a wicketkeepe[redacted] such achievements.

Lillee has taken 351 [redacted] wickets, 42 more than L[redacted] Gibbs, who comes next. With[redacted] his absence with World Se[redacted] Cricket (Australia played [redacted] Test matches in that time),[redacted] migh have taken 450 or mo[redacted] He averages five wickets [redacted] every Test he has played in[redacted] striking rate surpassed only [redacted] S. F. Barnes, Bill O'Reil[redacted] Clarrie Grimmett and C. T. [redacted] Turner, among bowlers w[redacted] have taken more than 100 Te[redacted] wickets.

Lillee managed to kee[redacted] among the wickets after losin[redacted] pace, something Lindwall an[redacted] Trueman, two of the other grea[redacted] fast bowlers since the Second[redacted] World War, failed to do. Lille[redacted] has taken as much playing, i[redacted] less courage to confront, when[redacted] bowling brisk leg cutters on a[redacted] greenish pitch as he did in the[redacted] days of his youth, when he used[redacted] to force Marsh, his gloves[redacted] reinforced with raw meat, to[redacted]



[redacted] choicest flowers of the field

[redacted]the [redacted]een [redacted]ime [redacted]rom [redacted] he [redacted]two [redacted]very [redacted]owl [redacted]year [redacted]fter [redacted] his [redacted]d to [redacted]nd a [redacted]ning [redacted] the [redacted]ons.

As a bowler Lillee has been a giant. The only question mark over his record concerns Pakistan, where he had no success, and what a pity that he should have done so much in recent years to undermine the accepted standards of sporting behaviour.

Indulged for too long by the Australian cricket authorities, and encouraged to parade his excesses in World Series Cricket as a means of trying to authenticate it, he has too often mocked tradition. Indicative of a latent insecurity, this is something Greg Chappell would never have done. The exhibitionist and the introvert: Lillee is one, Chappell the other. Lillee easily got worked up; if Chappell did he practically never showed it.

Like Lillee, Chappell missed two good years with WSC. Otherwise, he rather than Gavaskar might now hold the record for most Test runs and most Test hundreds. His average of 53 from 87 Tests places him in the top flight. As a captain he lacked his elder brother's drive. Ian was a born "Godfather"; Greg was inclined to let a game drift.

Grandsons of Vic Richardson, one of Australia's best-loved captains, they have both been in their different ways formidable opponents. Ian, like Lillee, was defiantly pro-Packe Greg apologetically so. Greg, Australia's captain at the time, told Bradman of his remorse that it happened as it did.

As a somewhat callow youth Greg Chappell came to England in 1968 and 1969 to develop his game with Somerset. Then, as now, he lacked physical robustness. Such is his natural talent that, had he been as rugged as Ian, there would have been no stopping him.

At Lord's in 1972, after he had made 131 against England, MCC members paid him the greatly coveted compliment of rising to him; not only those who felt like stretching their legs, but all who were able-bodied and sober, because they had been privileged to watch a superb innings. Greg Chappell was rarely seen to hurry, whether ducking John Snow's fastest bouncer, or making a difficult slip catch look simple.

Lillee is 34, Chappell 3[illegible]. Both will retire as rich men. "I have been nurturing a pipe-dream for some time," Lillee wrote. "A nice piece of country property with a herd of beef cattle, a few Angora goats and a piggery... I've often joked with my old mate 'Marshy' about the fact that when it does happen I'll need a couple of farm hands."

He should be able to afford the land – and even Rod Marsh's services.

The fact that Australia will still have plenty of fast bowling without Lillee and of batting without Chappell augurs well for them. It may be a long time before they have two who are quite as good; but Hughes as a batsman and Lawson as a bowler are in pursuit, and in Australia, even now, someone else's future is openig up.

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

1983/84 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

RUGBY UNION

Hill's quick rise to the summit after Smith falls down in trial

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Steve Smith England's captain at the start of last season and a British Lion in New Zealand during the summer, has been forced to stand down from the England trial at Twickenham on Saturday. His place in the Rest XV to play England goes to Hill, the young Bath scrum half, and the captaincy of the junior side passes to Blakeway, the Gloucester prop.

Smith has not played for his club, Sale, since the end of November after pulling muscles in his left leg during Lancashire's county championship game with Surrey. A run-out on Tuesday evening confirmed that he was unable to operate at full stretch and further weakened what appeared at the start of the season to be a strong English hand at scrum half.

The selectors have assiduously ignored the temptation to play Melville (Wasps) in the trial because he only returned to the first class game last Monday after missing the first half of the season through injury.

Derek Morgan, chairman of selectors, said yesterday: "It is far better for Nigel to be left to make a steady return to full match fitness than for him to be thrown into a very important game too early."

Hill was one of two scrum halves among the replacements designated to attend the trial and he appears at this level for the first time in his first season of senior rugby after leaving Exeter University. George, the London Welsh scrum half, will be joined by Peck (Bedford) as a replacement.

The absence of Smith is unfortunate because his vast experience – he is England's most capped player in his position – would have helped exert the strongest possible pressure on the England side.

One of his successors as England's captain, Wheeler, will also be absent since the plaster from his broken thumb was only removed last Friday. he hopes to play for Leicester's third team this Saturday in his first game since England's win over New Zealand on November 19.

One player will go into the trial with a strong sense of dejavu. Huw Davies, the Wasps' stand off half, was moved to centre last season when Woodward of Leicester was forced to drop out of the game against France and the two subsequent internationals because of a shoulder injury.

Now the broken leg sustained by Dodge, Leicester's other centre, has given Davies another chance, not, it may be added, to the wholesale approval of clubs who feel they have candidates for the position who play regularly at centre. Davies, who will be 25 on the day England play Ireland, has not played centre at all this season.

Indeed, he has not played at all since the club's game with Northampton on December 17. He returned to the family home in Stourbridge over Christmas, not optimistic that England would require his services in the trial. By the time the teams were announced Wasps had made their dispositions for their New Year fixtures and, quite rightly, felt that players originally selected for any of their sides should be given games in preference to those who had declared themselves unavailable over the holiday period.

Both Davies and Colclough, the England Locks, had said they would not be free during the Christmas holidays, though, as it happened, an injury in the first team resulted in a place for Colclough last Saturday.

But Davies had to spend the last few days brushing up on some of the lesser midfield calls since he now finds himself part of the Cusworth-Hare-Woodward axis. "The change from stand off to centre is not as great as some people think," he said. "Perhaps the defensive responsibilities are greater."

Davies, who describes himself as a pessimist by nature, reflected tha tit was pleasant to be involved in the senior side though he had expected Palmer to be given the chance. Instead he will have the Bath centre playing opposite him. Palmer will be hoping to create enough havoc in England's ranks to capture the senior cap that has remained just out reach ever since 1977 when he toured Canada as an England Under-23 player.

While four of their members are disporting themselves at Twickenham, Wasps will be defending their unbeaten record against Richmond on Saturday and again the following day against Metropolitan Police in the Middlesex Cup.

Records such as theirs can become millstones, but Wasps are discovering a positive side to their success. The negative aspect is that the record creates inhibitions, a defensive state of mind which does not make for relaxed rugby. On the other hand, those players coming into the senior side strive that much harder not to let the side down.

Gloucestershire hope to take a trip to Italy

Gloucestershire, the county champions, are planning to travel abroad this summer for the first time in eight years. Officials are hoping to arrange a week-long tour to Italy, having ruled out suggestions of a visit to Zimbabwe.

The African plan had to be cancelled because most of the county pack would be barred from playing in Zimbabwe by the country's government following their visit to South Africa with the Gloucester club in 1981. Gloucestershire's last foreign tour was to South Africa in 1976.

John Cannon, the county team secretary, said yesterday: "We hope the tour can go ahead to Italy, as a way of saying thanks to the players for their tremendous results in recent years." Gloucestershire are optimistic that they will still be county champions when they arrive in Italy, although they must overcome Somerset in the final in March to retain the title.

Alan Old and Bob Hesford, the former England internationals, will play for a Durham University Past and Present XV against Rosslyn Park at Roehampton tonight. Hesford, the Bristol No 8, has been named at lock but Old will be at stand-off half, as usual.

● Chris Millerchip, the Oxford University centre, will play his first game for Coventry for two years when Neath visit Coundon Road on Saturday. His last appearance was against Neath as a replacement in the only match he took part in for them that season.

He played six times during 1980/81, but is now available to play for Coventry for the rest of the season. Robbed of a third Blue by injury last month, Millerchip displaces Bob Massey.

● Clive Heather makes his first team debut for Blackheath in Saturday's London Merit Table meeting with Rosslyn Park at the Rectory Field. The 24-year-old centre replaces Rick Bodenham, who suffered a knee injury during Monday's 7-7 home draw with Saracens.

Chris Kibble the captain returns on the right wing after missing the three holiday games for a skiing holiday, but Paul Matthews is still missing from the second row because of a back complaint.

● Andy Jaszczak, the Saracens lock, will make his first senior appearance for two months in the home game against Ebbw Vale on Saturday. Jaszczak replaces Nick Ackhurst, who has a groin strain.

Dave Gregory will play in his third different position in three games. Following appearances at centre and full back, Gregory replaces the out-of-favour Rupert Thompson at stand off half.

Steve Hancock, the full back, centre Tim Smithers, Peter Sherriff, the flanker and prop Chris Wright all return following injury to strengthen the team which drew at Blackheath on Monday. Steve Jones the hooker, who has police exams next week, is replaced by Simon Hardy.

TABLE TENNIS

Setbacks for Chinese after title successes

Hongkong (AFP) – China reaffirmed their table-tennis supremacy in 1983 by taking six of the seven titles at the 37th world championships in Tokyo but they ended the year facing a crisis in their national sport. Four months after their Tokyo triumph in May, China were, for the first time, without a man in the final of the world cup and last month they suffered a shock 5-0 defeat by South Korea in the first Asian junior championships.

Adding to their problems has been the departure of Li Furong, their national coach, who guided China to 23 titles in the five world championships since 1975.

In Tokyo, China only just failed to match their 1981 clean sweep of all seven titles, losing only the men's doubles final. The pair to break the Chinese monopoly were Surbek Dragutin and Zoran Kalinic, of Yugoslavia, who beat Kie Saike and Jiang Jialiang in a five-set final.

Guo Yuehua surprised everyone including himself by successfully defending his singles title and China mastered Sweden 5-1 in a team final which was a lot closer than the score indicated.

Hungary managed a respectable third place with England a surprising fourth. The appearance of three European sides in the top four showed the new-found strength of a continent which dominated the sport foe three decades before 1955 when Asia swept to the fore.

In the women's team event the Chinese continued their dominance, winning all nine matches. They have not dropped a single set since 1981. After China, came Japan, North Korea, the Soviet Union and South Korea. The last eight in the singles event were all Asian players.

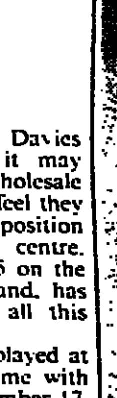
The fourth world cup in Bridgetown, Barbados, a 16-man tournament that provided the sport's richest purse, was won by Mikael Appelgren who beat Jan Ove Waldner in an all-Swedish final.

The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) announced in May that the sport would be a fully-fledged Olympic event for the first time in Seoul in 1988.

As the Chinese try to rediscover their form they are likely to ban the combination bat. The new rule adopted in May states that the two surfaces of a racket shall be in different colours so they can be distinguished easily during play

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TENNIS: DOUBLES TOURNAMENT GETS OFF TO A LIVELY START



Whose ball? Curren (left) and Denton wait for the kill (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Words match deeds of champions

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Whether playing tennis or talking about it, Heinz Gunthardt and Balazs Taroczy were in good form at the Albert Hall, London, on Tuesday evening. First, they beat Kevin Curren and Steve Denton 3-6, 7-6, 6-4, 6-2 in two hours and eight minutes in the opening match of the annual doubles tournament promoted by World Championship Tennis and sponsored by Barratt Developments. Then they indulged in droll sense of humour when discussing the extreme brevity of the rallies.

Taroczy said that when Denton was serving and Gunthardt returning, his head was swinging this way and that so fast that he thought it might lurch off it hinges. At such times he just hoped that the ball would not come in his direction. Gunthardt said that in the first two sets Denton and Curren served so hard that "sometimes I was lucky to get out of the way."

The rallies were over so quickly, Gunthardt added, that a set and a half had gone by before he broke into a sweat. ("I'm still dry" Taroczy interjected) "I wanted to warm up" Gunthardt said. "I thought of doing some push-ups, but it would have looked ridiculous. The rallies were so fast that it was like table tennis: little flicks, because there was no time for a backswing. And the bounce was so low that it was almost like playing on grass."

There was more in the same vein. The press conference was better entertainment than the tennis. True, there were a few entrancing rallies and, more often, outbursts of sudden splendour as one man or another improvised a shot of dazzling finesse. But most of the match was a reminder that there comes a point at which speed and charm are totally incompatible.

Gunthardt was sharp and Taroczy subtle. But they had little chance to do their stuff until Curren and Denton began to miss the mark with their first services. This phase began at the end of the second set when Denton, discomposed when what he thought was an ace was judged to be a fault, instantly missed more decisively: a double fault that gave Gunthardt and Taroczy the edge in the tie-break.

In the third set Denton served two double-faults in one game to help Gunthardt and Taroczy to break for 2–1. Curren who had previously had only one break point against him, lost his service twice in the fourth set. Winners for the past two years, Gunthardt and Taroczy now have an 11–0 record in this tournament. In the process they have beaten Curran and Denton four times (twice in 1982, when these pairs met in the all-play-all series and again in the final).

Pavel Slozil and Tomas Smid, the Czechoslovak Davis Cup pair, had a five-set win over the twins, Tim and Tom Gullikson, who were runners-up at Wimbledon. This second match ended almost five hours and a half after the first had begun – a long programme considering the fast playing conditions. Today and tomorrow there will be separate programmes at 11 am and 6 pm and on Saturday there will be separate programmes at noon and 7 pm. The final will be played at 1.45 on Sunday.

Bjorn again

Stockholm (AFP) – Bjorn Borg intends to return to his native Sweden and open a tennis school in Stockholm, according to newspaper reports here yesterday. *Expressen* said that Borg, retired and living in Monaco, intends to open the school with his former trainer Lennart Bergelin, in Vallentuna, a suburb of Stockholm.

Shaw joins Britain's King's Cup team

Stephen Shaw, aged 21, from north London, has been chosen as the fourth member of Britain's King's Cup team for the European indoor championships in Essen, West Germany, from January 16 to 22.

It will be Shaw's second King's Cup and he joins Buster Mottram, Colin Dowdeswell and Jeremy Bates. Shaw recently finished ninth on the South African Satellite circuit and also did well in the British national championships last October when he reached the singles semi-final and doubles final.

Paul Hutchins, the British team manager, said yesterday: "Stephen has shown considerable improvement over the last few months. It suits me to have two younger players like Bates and Shaw along with the two senior players in Mottram and Dowdeswell, thus combining youth with experience."

● Ben Knapp and Jane Wood, second seeds in the boys' and girls' junior covered court championships, sponsored by Prudential, at Queen's Club, were both beaten yesterday (Lewine Mair writes).

Knapp's defeat came as no surprise. An intelligent lad for whom exams currently matter rather more than competitive tennis. He was never at his considerable best in losing 3–6, 6–1, 6–4 to Christopher Harris.

Miss Wood, on the other hand, was clearly capable of winning the the girls' title. She is an attractive player, who is always on the attack, but she blasted too many balls out of court yesterday against Alison Fleming, aged 14, from Leicestershire, who had nothing to lose.

Of the two No 1 seeds, Richard Whichello and Sarah Longbottom, Whichello had much the easier day. He dropped but one game against Mark Wallace and Miss Longbottom, for whom it must be something of an ordeal suddenly to be cast in the role of favourite, was taken to three sets by the tenacious Julie Went.

BOYS: Second round: R Whichello bt M Wallace, 6–0, 6–1; D Sharm bt D Ison, 6–3, 6–4; J Goodall bt N Jones, 6–2, 6–0; R Jeffreys bt S Tucker, 6–4, 7–6; S Cole bt G Franks, 7–5, 6–2; A Brice bt N Grassick, 6–4, 2–6, 8–6; P Coyle bt C Weekes, 6–4, 6–2; C Harris bt B Knapp, 3–6, 6–1, 6–4.

GIRLS: Second round: S Longbottom bt J Went, 2–6, 6–3, 7–5; A Simpkin bt V Lake, 6–3, 6–3; A Grunfeld bt K Montagu, 6–2, 6–4; J Holden bt C Gillies, 6–4, 6–4; D Walker bt J Phillips, 6–3, 7–5; L Gould bt C Bhaguandas, 6–0, 7–5; A Fleming bt J Wood, 7–5, 6–2; S Whiteman bt F Couldridge, 4–6, 7–5, 6–0.

CHICAGO: Challenge of Champions: M Wilander (Swe) bt J Arias (US) 6-2, 3-6, 6-3; I Lendl (Cz) bt W Fibak (Pol) 6-4, 6-1; A Gomez (Ec) bt Y Noah (Fr) 7-6, 7-6.

PERTH: West Australian Open: First round: T Nelson (US) bt D Mustard (Nz) 6-3, 4-6, 6-3; J Vonnostrand (US) bt P Doohan (Aus), 5-7, 6-4, 6-4; J Frawley (Aus) bt R Evett (US) 6-3, 2-6, 6-2; M Kratzman (Aus) bt E Oncins (Br) 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Amateurs appeal to play in the Cup

By Keith Macklin

On the crest of a wave of popularity, the amateur game in Britain has issued further appeals for the inclusion of amateur sides in the Rugby League Challenge Cup.

Amateur sides formerly competed in the first round, but were phased out when Kent Invicta, Cardiff City, and Carlisle entered the professional ranks. A newly-issued press release gives a breakdown of the many amateur clubs who have distinguished themselves in the first round of the cup. The statement is by Trevor Hunt, a spokesman for the British Amateur Rugby League Association.

Mr Hunt calls for a first round in which the 18 second division clubs join 14 amateur sides, the winning 16 to go through to meet the first division clubs in the second round.

The statement comments: "At least 75 per cent of the amateur sides would give a good acount of themselves, whilst inevitably there would be a minority of large scores. With so many places to compete for, the amateurs' standards would continue to rise and the game's reputation as a family sport would be enhanced."

The only amateur side to have beaten a professional team in the Cup were Beverley, near Hull, who beat Ebbw Vale 7-2 in 1909. There have been some more recent close calls for the professionals: Lee Miners' Welfare held Warrington to 16-12 in 1976 and, in the outstanding performance by an amateur side, Pilkingtons Recs went down 23-22 to Castleford in 1978. In the John Player Trophy in 1978, Cawoods of Hull beat Halifax 9-8.

The ever-growing amateur gave has been further stimulated over the new year from two quarters. The brewers, Whitbread, have re-affirmed their sponsorship of the national knockout competition and the OBE was awarded to Bob Beal, the BARLA President.

● The troublesome knee ligament injury which has laid low the Great Britain captain., Trevor Skerrett, could mean a golden opportunity for Keith Rayne, the Leeds forward who has been in great form recently. A replacement for Skerrett will be announced today following last night's Great Britain Squad training session.

● Paul Rose may retire after a 16-year career. The Hull and Great Britain forward is unlikely to play again this season because of the demands of running his pub near Hull. He was signed from Hull KR only 18 months ago for £30,000 and played in last season's final match against Australia.

FOOTBALL

Hard work keeps Mariners on course

By Simon Barnes

British United Trawlers used to have getting on for 100 trawlers working out of Grimsby: now they have four. Grimsby is a town where unemployment runs at 16 per cent, a once-booming town where the jobs have gone down the plug hole.

Last season, Grimsby Town Football Club mirrored the town's decline moving from a golden autumn at the top of the second division through a bleak mid-winter to a black spring. They neede to beat Queen's Park Rangers to stay up, and they blew it. It took sympathetic results elsewhere to keep them up. Their manager, David Booth, said – something like one that on a lonesome road doth walk in fear and dread, and having once turned round walks on and turns no more his head, because he knows a fearful fiend doth close behind him tread – said: "I wouldn't recommend that experience." They survived by a single point.

But now they are in fifth place in the table, and the impossible dream of promotion to the first division is a possibility, one talked of in whispers, a prospect almost a fearful as relegation. Grimsby alongside Manchester United, Tottenham, Arsenal, Liverpool? No one is saying it is likely, you can get decent odds against it, but don't say a word —a Grimsby are definitely on schedule for their first trip to the first division since 1936.

Yet no-one much comes to see the Mariners these days. A mere 4,800 came to see them thump Oldham 3-0 before Christmas: the following Saturday, they played in front of 13,000 at Chelsea, and beat them too. Home clubs keep the gate receipts these days.

No, there is not a lot of cash about in Grimsby. Booth has a first team squad of 15, which includes two goalkeepers and a vacancy, since Whymark has just left for Southend. Booth naturally wants to sign someone capable of playing in 10 positions on the field, and perhaps be third-choice goalkeeper as well. With money so tight, an all-in-one utility player is the dream of all managers save the highest, and let's hope he is available on a free transfer, too.

Last season, Booth, who follows as Grimsby manager in the footsteps of Alan B. Chillon, Bill Shankley, and Lawrie McMenemy, had a managerial team of one. "I was manager, coach and scout. It was too much for one man." But with the inspired appointment of Chris Nicholl as centre back and assistant manager, vast weights have soared from Booth's shoulders. Nicholl is 36, which makes him something of an ancient Mariner, but Grimsby's defence now does better than stopping one of three.

"We haven't got any stars", Booth said. Familiar names are hard to find, local lads, as you'd expect in a cut-off town like Grimsby, abound. His team has its sound, Nicholl-plated defence, two wide boys, Emson and Ford for roaring counter-attacks, and Drinkell and Wilkinson, a lad of 18, to do the business up front. "It's all down to sheer hard work", Booth said. He is that sort of man, a former Grimsby player signed by Lawrie McMenemy who, as manager, likes to get on with things in his own quiet way, the kind who drives his local papers to distraction with his lack of flamboyance and controversial stories. He is rather a shy man, uncomfortable in the ritual post-match press conferences and loathing performing for television and radio.

Hard work is his thing: if you believe you must work twice as hard as anyone else in order to stay in the same place, you are quite likely to move on. His side now go into matches expecting to win them. Anything is possible now. "I know it's a boring thing to say, but what else can we do except take one game after another? Keep our feet? Work hard?"

Booth: the quiet way

Booth knows how easily things can go wrong. "That takes a short time, and it takes a long while to mend things again." After their heady moment at the top last season, their lack of staff found them out: a broken leg, a fractured cheekbone, a couple of other minor knocks, and down they slid.

Booth knows his side are expected to slip away from a promotion charge dominated by bigger clubs like Chelsea, Manchester City, Newcastle United and Sheffield Wednesday. But he also knows that if the lads keep plugging away, thus year's miracle might yet come their way. "I don't know how the board view our current position and our prospects.....with a mixture of delight and trepidation, I expect."

That is certainly Booth's attitude. "I feel empty inside five minutes before a game, wondering if it can possibly come right again.....but I tell you, I wouldn't swap now for last season."

Two ambassadors, one thought

By Paul Newman

FA CUP

It is five years since non-League football was last represented by just two clubs in the third round of the FA Cup. On Saturday Telford United (away to Rochdale) and Maidstone United (away to Darlington) are left to fly the flag in this season's third round.

Yet if the semi-professional game is poorly represented in terms of numbers, it could hardly wish for two better ambassadors. Both are challenging strongly for the Alliance Premier League championship and both have their sights firmly set on winning a place in the Football League.

Telford were the Alliance League's candidates for election to the League two seasons ago but had little time in which to prepare an effective campaign. At the League's annual meeting they polled only 13 votes 35 fewer than Rochdale and Scunthorpe United, the two most endangered of the four League clubs seeking reelection.

Maidstone were last season's candidates and collected 26 votes, just 10 fewer than Harlepool United. It was Maidstone's first attempt at gaining admission to the League and Jim Thompson, the chairman, believes his club have an excellent chance of winning election if they again earn the Alliance nomination this season.

"A number of things were against us last season," he said. "It was our first attempt to get into the League and while people knew about the Yeovils and the Ketterings they didn't know so much about us. The fact that we didn't have a good Cup run didn't help either."

Success in the FA Cup has often been the crucial factor in a non-League club's campaign for election to the League. Hereford United, Wimbledon and Wigan Athletic, the last three clubs to join, all made names for themselves by beating League clubs in the Cup.

No non-League club can better Telford's Cup record over the last two seasons. They have played seven matches against League opponents and lost only once, to Tranmere Rovers in a second round replay last season after they had beaten Wigan in the first round. This season they have taken two League scalps, those of Stockport County and Northampton Town. Telford also won the FA Trophy last season.

The Shropshire club's attack is led by probably the best goalscoring partnership in the Allince League. David Mather, a player with vast experience in non-League football, scored more than 70 goals in the last two seasons and Colin Willims, a regular in the England semi-professional team, has twice finished leading scorer in the Alliance.

Williams is one of several players who have followed Stan Storton, Telford's manager, on his travels between non-League clubs in the north-west. Before arriving at Telford nearly three years ago he had managed Ellesmere Port Town, Runcorn, Bangor City and Northwich Victoria. During a long playing career Storton, who today celebrates his forty-fifth birthday, appeared for Bradford City, Darlington, Hartlepool and Tranmere.

Storton played in the League at the same time as Maidstone's manager, Bill Williams, who turned out for Portsmouth, Queen's Park Rangers, West Bromwich Albion, Mansfield Town and Darlington. Before coming to Maidstone two years ago Williams, aged 41, coached Atlanta Chiefs in the United States, but his first years in coaching and management were with Durban City in South Africa.

One of his many notable achievements at Durban, whom he took to a series of honours, was the signing of Bruce Grobbelaar, now Liverpool's goalkeeper. "Bruce was recommended to me when he was playing for Bulawayo Tin Mines in Rhodesia," he said. "I only needed to go to see him once to see his potential. He played for me at Durban for two years and then I got his trials with West Bromwich Albion and Bournemouth. He didn't make it with either of them so I recommended him to Tony Waiters at Vancouver Whitecaps. That was his big breakthrough. He came over here to get some experience with Crewe. Liverpool saw him and soon he was at Anfield."

Gunners pass test

Graham Rix and Brian Talbot are in contention for Arsenal's third round FA Cup match at Middlesbrough on Saturday after proving their fitness in a 5-0 reserve team win over Swansea yesterday.

Rix has missed eight matches with an achilles tendon injury. Talbot as had a calf strain.

YACHTING

New York's title in name only

By John Nicholls

Although the New York Yacht Club were obliged to hand over the America's Cup last September, they are still trying to retain a right to the Cup's name. A notice in yesterday's *Trade Mark Journal* reveals that the NYYC have applied to register the name as a trade mark.

If their applications were granted, the club would then be able to license the use of the trade mark in a variety of ways. Past America's Cup challenges have had "official" souvenirs ranging from charms and medallions in precious metals to T-shirt and peaked caps. Clearly the name is a money spinner which the Americans are loath to give up.

The Pirates Cruising Club of Epsom, led by their admiral, David Evans, have decided to oppose the NYYC's application. Their principal argument is that the club has never owned the title to the Cup: they were merely the custodians of it. The custodians, or holders of the trophy, are now the Royal Perth Yacht Club. In any case, the Pirates believe it is against the public interest of the names of major sporting trophies to be registered as an exclusive right by private clubs or commercial organizations.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Arsenal 5, Swansea City 0; Ipswich 3, Bristol Rovers 1: Postponed, Reading v Swindon.
MIDWEEK LEAGUE: Portsmouth 5, Northampton 1.
UXBRIDGE: Representative match: RAF 1, Amateur Football Alliance 1.

ROAD RUNNING

TAURANGAN, New Zealand: Road race (1 mile): Men: 1, J. Walker (NZ), 4min 7.0secs; 2, M. Hillardt (Aus), 4:08.0; 3, M. Molloy (NZ), 4:08.0. Women: 1, B. Kraus (WG), 4:49.2; 2, C. Twomey (Can), 4 49.3; 3, C. Hughes (NZ), 4:50.7.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Washington Bullets 103, Detroit Pistons 102; New York Knicks 117, Los Angeles Lakers 105; Boston Celtics 105, New Jersey Nets 103; Milwaukee Bucks 104, Cleveland Cavaliers 92; San Antonio Spurs 137, Utah Jazz 124; Chicago Bulls 102, Phoenix Suns 97; Dallas Mavericks 119, Houston Rockets 117; Seattle Supersonics 110, Denver Nuggets 109; Portland Trail Blazers 123, Kansas City Kings 104; Golden State Warriors 115, Philadelphia 76ers 106.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Detroit Red Wings 7, Hartford Whalers 1; Philadelphia Flyers 7, Pittsburgh Penguins 5; Quebec Nordiques 9, Montreal Canadiens 5; Boston Bruins 4, New York Islanders 2; St Louis Blues 8, Toronto Maple Leafs 3; Edmonton Oilers 9, Calgary Flames 6; Vancouver Canucks 4, Los Angeles Kings 3.

TENNIS

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE: Ginny tournament: First round (US unless stated): T Lewis, bt B Bowes, 7–5, 2–6, 6–2; N Herreman (Neth), bt A Brown (GB), 6–4, 6–3; R Emy, (GB), bt A Minter (Aust), 6–2, 6–3; V Nelson, bt M Skuherska (Cz), 6–1, 6–0; F Raschiatore, bt A Henricksson, 6–3, 4–6, 6–3; L Romanov (Rom), bt K Latham, 6–2, 3–6, 7–5; K Cummings, bt P Smith, 1–6, 6–4, 7–6; K Keil, bt K Skronska (Cz), 6–2, 6–0; M L Piatek, bt S Goles (Yug), 2–6, 7–5, 6–4; A Holton, bt E Carell, 6–2, 6–0; E Longo (Arg), bt C Vanier (Fr), 6–7, 6–4, 6–2; N Yeargin, bt C Reynolds, 0–6, 7–5, 6–3.

WASHINGTON: Virginia Slims tournament: First round (US unless stated): A Jaeger bt S Walsh 6–2, 6–3; L Bonder bt C Kohde-Kilsch (WG), 6–7, 6–1, 6–2; W Turnbull (Aus) bt A Hobbs (GB), 6–7, 6–2, 6–3; P Casale bt P Paradis (Fr), 6–2, 6–2; H Mandlikova (Cz), bt C Benjamin 6–4, 6–2; S Collins bt C Bassett (Can), 5–7, 7–6, 7–5; T Phelps bt R Reggi (It), 6–3, 6–3; E Pfaff (WG), bt L Allen 6–1, 6–1.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

FA YOUTH CUP: Third round: Newcastle v Leeds (7.0); Southampton v AP Leamington; Sunderland v Mansfield. Postponed: Derby v Manchester United.
FA TROPHY: Third round replay: Clapton v Chelmsford.

OTHER SPORT

RUGBY UNION: Rosslyn Park v Durham University XV.
BADMINTON: England under 23 v Ireland under 23 (at Hull)
TENNIS: World doubles championship (at Royal Albert Hall, 11.0 and 6.0).

IN BRIEF

Lendl is left in cold after Sun City stay

Prague (AFP) – Ivan Lendl is still out of favour with the Czechoslovak tennis authorities. He has again been left out of the Davis Cup Team, for the match against Denmark next month.

Lendl, ranked among the top three players in the world, was suspended in July last year for having played in an exhibition tournament in Sun City, South Africa, agains the wishes of the national federation. He was subsequently left out of the four-man team for the Davis Cup match against the Soviet Union in September.

No mention was made in the Czechoslavak press of the omission of Lendl, the country's No.1 player, who has not returned to Czechoslovakia for 18 months.

WINTER OLYMPICS: Ther first snow in more than a month began falling in Sarajero yesterday at the site of February's winter Olympic Games, covering slopes left barren by a spell of dry weather and unusually warm temperatures. More than two inches of snow within an hour on city centre streets were reported.

BOXING: The European light-middleweight title bout between the holder, Herol Graham, and Said Skouma, of France, scheduled for Paris on January 16, has been postponed because Graham has influenza. Skouma's manager, Jean Bretonnel, hopes to rearrange the meeting for January 26.

FOOTBALL: (AFP) – The Italian club, Udinese, is to be sold for seven billion lira (£2.85m) according to reports yesterday. The unconfirmed price is only a billion lira (£400,000) more than the first division side paid last year for their Brazilian forward Zico.

HOCKEY: Richard Clarke, of Tulse Hill, will lead England in the Home Counties indoor championship to be played tomorrow and Saturday at Meadowbank. The title is held by Scotland, who won it last year in Belfast.

England squad: J Hurst (St Albans), D Smith (Bromley), M Flora (Slough), S Eyre (Liverpool Sefton), C Ward (Firebrands), A Halliday (St Albans), R Leman (East Grinstead), B Saini (Slough), R Clarke (Tulse Hill, captain), P Nicholson (Preston), C Bradley (Teddington), I Jennings (Guildford).

SKI JUMPING: Jens Weissflog, of East Germany, won the World Cup in Innsbruck yesterday with a leap of 107.5 metres, a record for the Bergisel hill. He moves up to second equal in the World Cup points table, behind Matti Nykaenen of Finland.

SKIING: The venue for the men's World Cup slalom, scheduled for Morzine, France, on Sunday, is to be changed because of lack of snow (Reuter reports). The new venue will be announced today. A men's World Cup downhill has been switched from Morzine to Laax, Switzerland, and a women's World Cup downhill and super giant slalom, scheduled for Pfronten, West Germany, to Puy Saint-Vincent, France, for the same reason.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) –	°C
Avoriaz	63	65	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	–6
New powder snow on hard base							
Davos	40	100	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	2
20cm powder snow on piste							
Flaine	60	110	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	3
Powder snow on hard base							
Kitzbühel	8	60	Good	Powder	Poor	Snow	0
New snow on icy base							
Sauze d'Oulx	5	30	Fair	Varied	Poor	Cloud	–3
Lower slopes very worn							
Seefeld	27	60	Fair	Varied	Poor	Fine	–1
New snow on hard base							
Val d'Isère	40	80	Good	Powder	Good	Fair	–7
New snow on hard base							
Verbier	10	50	Powder	Fair	Poor	Snow	–4
Lower slopes worn							
Wegen	15	30	Fair	Powder	Fair	Snow	–2
New snow blown on icy pistes							
Wildschönau	10	50	Hard snow		Icy	–	–
35 lifts opened							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from a tourist board:

AUSTRIA	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather –	°C
Alpbach	20	70	–	–	–2
Axamer-Lizum	–	40	–	–	–3
Badgastein	15	110	–	–	–1
Berwang	30	40	–	–	–5
Brand	5	50	–	–	–3
Ischgl	30	110	–	–	–4
Kaprun	10	100	–	–	–3
Lech-Zurs/Arlberg		50	100	–	– –5
Lermoos	15	75	–	–	–3
Lienz/Osttirol	30	80	–	–	–2
Mayrhofen	0	60	–	–	–7
Mitterbach	0	50	–	–	–3
Obergurgl	40	55	–	–	–4
Obertauern	70	120	–	–	–5
Saalbach	25	85	–	–	–7
Schruns	0	110	–	–	–3
Serfaus	35	110	–	–	–1
Soll	20	40	–	–	–2

ITALY	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather –	°C
Abetone	40	100	–	–	–
Bardonecchia	30	80	–	–	–
Bormio	20	80	–	–	–
Canazei	35	110	–	–	–
Cervinia	50	100	–	–	–
Claviere	30	50	–	–	–
Cortina	70	100	–	–	–
Courmayeur	50	120	–	–	–
Livigno	40	60	–	–	–
Madesimo	50	100	–	–	–
Madonna Comp		130	190	–	– –
Macugnaga	20	100	–	–	–
Ortisei	20	60	–	–	–
S Martino Castr	70	90	–	–	–
Selva Valgardena		20	60	–	– –
Sestriere	40	80	–	–	–
Vipitano	5	70	–	–	–

SWITZERLAND	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather –	°C
Adelboden	40	100	Good	–	–1
Braunwald	100	130	Good	–	–1
Champery	10	60	Good	–	+3
Chateau d'Oex	10	80	Good	–	–2
Disentis	50	120	Good	–	+4
Gstaad	10	40	Fair	–	0
Kandersteg	25	60	Good	–	+1
Lanx-Flims	70	200	Good	–	–4
Lenk	20	80	Good	–	–3
Lenzerheide	90	140	Good	–	–3
Les Diablerets	40	70	Good	–	–2
Leysin	40	120	Good	–	–4
Pontresina	55	200	Good	–	+3
St Gergue	10	50	Fair	–	+2
Savognin	50	110	Good	–	0
Unterwasser	20	70	Good	–	+2

NORWAY	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather –	°C
Finse	–	110	Good	–	–8
Geilo	–	80	Good	–	–4
Gol	–	35	Good	–	–10
Lillehammer	–	30	Good	–	–5
Norefjell	–	20	Good	–	–4
Oslo	–	25	Good	–	–10
Rjukan	–	40	Good	–	–4
Voss	–	80	Good	–	–3

SCOTLAND: Cairngorms: Upper Runs: complete, new snow, middle runs: some complete, new snow, lower slopes: complete, new snow, vertical runs: 1,200ft, hill roads and main roads: slight snow: snow level 1,000ft. Glenshee: Upper runs: four runs complete, new snow, lower slopes: ample nursery areas, new snow, vertical runs: 500ft; hill roads and main roads, slight snow snow level 2,000ft. Glencoe: No report. Lecht: Upper runs: complete, new snow on a firm base; middle runs: as upper runs; lower slopes: limited nursery areas, new snow on a firm base; vertical runs: 600ft; snow level: 2,000ft.

RACING: DODGY FUTURE TACKLES SENIORS AT SANDOWN ON SATURDAY

Bregawn to take Haydock option

By Michael Seely

Bregawn runs in the New Year Handicap Chase at Haydock Park on Saturday in preference to taking on Burrough Hill Lad at Sandown Park. Announcing his decision yesterday Michael Dickinson said: "Not only does the Lancashire race look an easier target, but there's also been a great deal more rain in the North-West, so the ground is likely to be softer." It was, of course, because of the fast going at Kempton Park that last season's Cheltenham Gold Cup winner was withdrawn at the 11th hour from the King George VI Chase on Boxing Day.

Graham Bradley will not only be riding Bregawn but also Macs Park and Money From America. Macs Park, a recent acquisition from Ireland, won a handicap hurdle in fluent style at Wetherby and despite an 8lb penalty for that success, still looks reasonably treated in the Ladbroke Northern Hurdle. Cool Decision, the runner-up at Wetherby, made the form look solid when landing a gamble in the L'Oreal Hurdle at Newbury.

The champion trainer is certainly setting a strong pace at the head of affairs, having suffered only one defeat from the five runners he has saddled in the new year. Once again he is spreading his net far and wide on Saturday. Robert Earnshaw goes to Sandown to take the mount on Fearless Imp in the Express Chase and Dermot Browne travels to Warwick to ride Brunton Park in the Grunwick Novices' Chase.

Despite the absence of Bregawn, the Anthony Mildmay Peter Cazalet Memorial Chase still looks like being one of the most competitive staying handicaps run to date. Even with a penalty for his victory in the Coral Welsh National, Burrough Hill Lad looks set to continue Henny Pitman's triumphant march in Sandown's £15,000 feature. Everett, Royal Judgement and Lillie Owl are other talented chasers, under orders for this extended three miles five furlongs test.

The Tolworth Hurdle and the Tante Claire 4-year-old Hurdle should shed some valuable light on the *Daily Express* Triumph Hurdle situation. David Elsworth runs the five-year-old, Desert Orchid, in the Tolworth and is keeping Easter Lee in reserve for the Tante Claire. Only defeated once in his last four starts, by the year older Catch Phrase on this course in December. Desert Orchid was remarkably impressive when sprinting home by 15 lengths from the unenterprisingly ridden I Haventalight. Richard Burridge's home-bred gelding is set to concede 9lb to Dodgy Future who is at present ante post favourite to give Stan Mellor his third victory in Cheltenham's four-year-old championship.

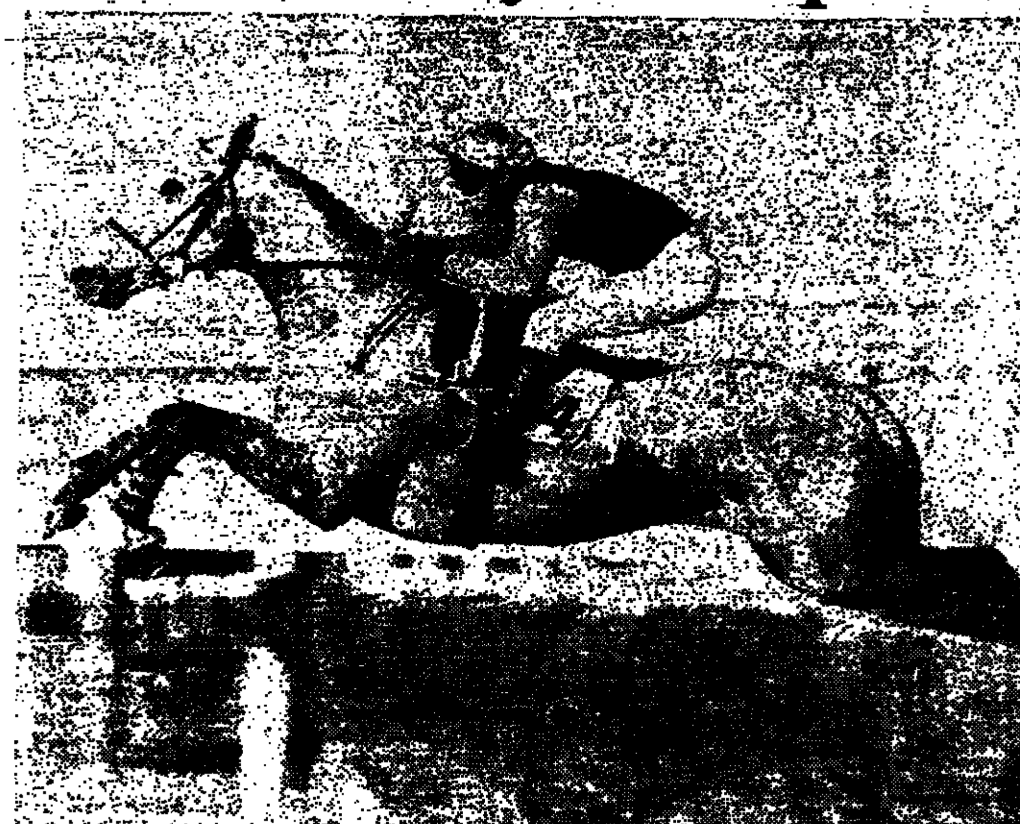
Fred Winter looks the man to follow at Lingfield this afternoon. The seven times champion trainer can land a double by winning the first division of the Horley Novices Hurdle with The Reject and the Sevenoaks Novices Chase with Carved Opal.

The Reject is one of Winter's promising team of young hurdlers. The winner of a 22-runner bumpers race in Ireland in April, The Reject was made favourite for his first race over hurdles and won comfortably by half a length from Rose Ravine, who had previously beaten the highly thought of Townley Stone at Warwick.

Carved Opal, a useful hurdler last season, dead-heated with Lear Ar Aghaidh on his first appearance over fences at Kempton. The six-year-old jumped magnificently and should have too much pace for Nicky Henderson's Warwick winner, Green Bramble, and Brave Hussar.

Mossat and Herr Capitan are two other likely winners on the Surrey course. Mossat was staying at the finish when fourth to Ensign's Kit at Wolverhampton and should have most to fear from Jade and Diamond, and Dalbury in the Southern Counties Handicap Hurdle. Herr Capitan likes Lingfield and also relishes the prevailing soft going. Jim Old's eight-year-old ran well when third to Giddycan at Newton Abbot and is the one they all have to beat in the Weald Handicap Chase.

Finally, it is good to hear that Newcastle are to name a race in honour of Ekbalco who was tragically killed in his fall in the Fighting Fifth hurdle on the course in November. Freddie Newton, the clerk of the course at Gosforth Park said yesterday: "The race we have chosen was formerly known as the Long Town Hurdle. Next season it will be run on October 30 and will probably carry £2,000 in added money."



Desert Orchid, David Elsworth's exciting front-runner, has Tolworth Hurdle target

Rivers Edge heads for Lincoln

Denys Smith, the Bishop Auckland trainer, intends running Rivers Edge in the Lincoln Handicap, despite the big race still being almost three months away. The six-year old showed his well-being when gaining his third win over hurdles at Ayr yesterday.

Rivers Edge, who is owned by John Fry, father of the stable's talented flat apprentice, Martin, provided Smith with his 21st winner over jumps' this term when taking the Drongan Conditional Jockeys Handicap Hurdle by seven lengths from Longcliffe. "I might give Rivers Edge one more race over hurdles, but he will be getting ready now for the Lincoln," Smith said. Martin Fry will have the ride

Lingfield Park

GOING: Soft

Tote Double: 2.0, 3.0. Treble: 1.30, 2.30, 3.30

1.0 HORLEY HURDLE (Div I: novices: £548) (21 runners)

102 1 THE REJECT (D) (T Ludlow) F Winter 5-11-8 J Francome
104 0 CRISPIN (M Blackburn) J Gifford 7-11-7 P Double
107 SHOOTING BUTTS (T Bell) C Read 6-11-7 J Hughes 4
108 230/P-0 SHRAVOKEE (Mrs C Wright) G Kindersley 8-11-7 A Webber
111 22303- AIRBORNE DEAL (K Higson) A Moore 5-11-3 G Moore
112 0 ARMATRIST (N Wheeler) N Wheeler 5-11-3 Mr N Wheeler
113 00-0 BALOYD (Mrs M Banks) W Musson 5-11-3 R Linley
114 0 BE PATIENT ALWAYS (F Hill) A Turnell 5-11-3 E Waite
115 BLENDING (Mrs P White) B Wise 5-11-3 R Rowell
117 GOD'S IMAGE (Mrs B Mangan) D Wilson 5-11-3 P Scudamore
118 KINGKAID (Mrs H Pitt) A Pitt 5-11-3 R Berry
120 0 LINTON GLEN (R Meddes) J O'Donoghue 5-11-3 Mr B O'Leary 7
121 F40-020 MONCLARE TROPHY (Monclare Products) A Pitt 5-11-3 N Madden
122 0P000- RUMSTEAD COURT (Mrs A Nash) Pat Mitchell 5-11-3 M Hammond 4
125 F40 GRACEFUL KELLY (C Underwood) B Palling 7-11-2 A Griffiths 4
127 PP LO-INCOST (R Dean) R Dean 5-10-12 G Newman
128 40-0214 MAJESTIC CUE (D) (J Ffitch-Heyes) J Ffitch-Heyes 5-10-12 G Madgwick 7
130 COLONEL GODFREY (Mrs S Archibald) J Old 4-10-5 S Morshead
133 33 SALIX (R Coombe) Pat Mitchell 4-10-5 R Goldstein
134 0 SDENKA'S HUSSAR (B) (Mrs D Blackburn) Mrs R Lomax 4-10-5 T Williams 7
136 VAIGLY REL (A Sturge) P Mitchell 4-10-5 R G Hughes

4-9 The Reject, 5 Crispin, 7 Colonel Godfrey, 10 Salix, 12 Majestic Cue, 20 others.

1.30 OLD MILL CHASE (selling handicap: £971: 2m 4f) (16)

202 00111-P HULDA (D) (B) (R Strong) J Jenkins 9-11-7 J Francome
204 04-2FP3 TRUNCHEON (R Bastian) M Madgwick 9-10-12 A Madgwick 4
207 040004 JAMES SEYMOUR (B) (J Parish) P Butler 8-10-6 G Newman
208 F0U1/P4 GREY TARQUIN (D) (J Bridger) J Bridger 12-10-5 B Powell 7
209 020-033 FOREST LODGE (B) (D) (D Robinson) J Perrett 9-10-5 P Barton
210 00-0204 POOR SON (CD) (B Chamberlain) R Voorspuy 8-10-4 R Rowell
212 0FF3-40 BROGUE (K Higson) A Moore 8-10-2 G Moore
213 F00-403 CLAN-DY-GUY (Mrs L Beasley) H Beasley 11-10-1 M Furlong
216 P030-00 CITY MARATHON (J Ffitch-Heyes) J Ffitch-Heyes 6-10-1 R Goldstein
217 03PU-PP OLIVER HARDY (H Chisman) Mrs B Waring 9-10-0 John Williams
219 04-PBP0 AMALFI BAY (S Crowe) M Bolton 7-10-0 P Scudamore
220 011303 RIVER WARRIOR (J Bradley) J Bradley 6-10-0 G Davies
223 00-02PF KNIGH HIGHWAY (T Doyle) J Ffitch-Heyes 9-10-0 P Dever 4
224 PP03FP IRISH PAGEANT (B) (T King) W King 10-10-0 –
226 00F010 VERY FRIENDLY (D) (Devilles Ltd) P Bevan 8-10-0 (4 ex) T Wall
227 00-0330 KINTYRE (B) (Mrs A Grantham) M Madgwick 9-10-0 Mr T Grantham 7

3 Hulda, 7-2 Forest Lodge, 9-2 Poor Son, 6 Clan-Dy-Guy, 8 River Warrior, 10 Very Friendly.

2.0 SOUTHERN COUNTIES HURDLE (handicap: £2,446: 2m) (16)

301 3002-00 LULAV (D) (P Hamilford) D Nicholson 6-11-11 P Scudamore
303 010-0 DIAMOND HUNTER (D) (T Egerton) N Gaselee 6-10-10 S Smith Eccles
304 32-0004 MOSSAT (D) (BF) (N Gibson) B Palling 7-10-10 A Griffiths 4
306 40-F310 JADE AND DIAMOND (CD) (R Lavelle) G Balding 6-10-5 R Chapman 7
308 012-00F HATTAN (CD) (G Yarrow) P Mitchell 6-10-5 R G Hughes
309 14-F430 PIEROTH (D) (P Fahey) G Kindersley 6-10-4 C Brown
310 PPP-000 CHARJIM (CD) (B) (D Murrell) A Moore 6-10-3 G Moore
311 011-002 DALBURY (D) (R Smale) P Haynes 6-10-3 P Corrigan 7
314 133-000 THE PAIN BARRIER (CD) (S Powell) P Haynes 5-10-0 J Lovejoy 4
316 140/0-0 KING'S PICCOLO (D) (A Thompkins) Miss L Bower 7-10-0 R Rowell
317 2F304-0 MOUHANNED (D) (Maj J Rubin) J Old 6-10-0 S Moorhead
319 010-1 LE LEVADOR (D) (D Hill) Mrs R Lomax 5-10-0 T Williams 7
321 031312/ SIR GIVENCHY (F Sarrett) W Musson 9-10-0 R Linley
322 00/B0-0 ERRANTRY (CD) (M Rawlings) M Rawlings 9-10-0 D Hyde 4
323 0-01020 ALLADO (D) (A Neaves) A Neaves 8-10-0 A Wright 7
324 000-000 BIHAS BOUNTY (B) (D Goodwin) D Goodwin 8-10-0 –

11-4 Mossat, 4 Jade And Diamond, 9 Diamond Hunter, 7 Lulav, 8 Le Levador, 10 Hattan.

2.30 WEALD CHASE (handicap: £3,308: 3m) (11)

401 31F00-0 MANTON CASTLE (D) (R Shaw) R Shaw 10-11-13 J Francome
404 P/800-P BRIGHT DREAM (C) (H Joel) J Gifford 8-11-3 –
405 FF11-0P ROYAL ADMIRAL (S Allday) T Forster 9-11-2 H Davies
408 1011-03 HERR CAPITAN (CD) (A Whettam) J Old 8-10-12 Mr E Whettam
409 42-0FF4 LEANDER BLUE (Mrs M Rogers) D Nicholson 7-10-8 P Scudamore
412 4800-02 ROMANY COUNT (L Garrett) W R Williams 12-10-2 C Gray 4
413 302/0-P HARD OUTLOOK (CD) (P Wates) R Gow 13-10-0 A Webber
414 F4-P000 BAYHAM SIR VARDON (CD) (G Graham) G Graham 10-10-0 R Rowell
415 0P34-P3 FORT BELVEDERE (P Deal) G Thorner 9-10-0 DOUBTFUL
416 223-043 BIJJOLI (R Ledger) R Ledger 11-10-0 Mrs N Ledger
417 24103-1 STORM PRINCE (Mrs A Lacey) I Dudgeon 9-10-0 (4 ex) P Hobbs

7-4 Herr Captain, 4 Royal Admiral, 6 Storm Prince, 8 Bright Dream, Romany Count, 12 Leander Blue, 20 others.

3.0 SEVENOAKS CHASE (novices: £1,818: 2m) (16)

503 00-0013 BRAVE HUSSAR (D) (BF) (H Joel) J Gifford 6-11-8 –
504 02022-1 CARVED OPAL (Mrs G Abecassis) F Winter 6-11-8 J Francome
505 12F0-01 GREEN BRAMBLE (D) (Lady Plummer) N Henderson 7-11-8 H Davies
508 0400/0B BUSTING (Mrs C Williams) A Turnell 10-11-3 E Waite
509 42120U- CHARTER PARTY (Mrs C Smith) D Nicholson 6-11-3 P Scudamore
510 00420-U CHUMMY'S BEST (R Shaw) R Shaw 6-11-3 A Webber
511 00300-4 DONEGAL PRINCE (J McGonagle) P Kelleway 8-11-3 J Barlow
512 40200-0 GIN GAME (Mrs A Upsdell) J Jenkins 7-11-3 –
513 340440 GLENJADE (N Wheeler) N Wheeler 9-11-3 Mr N Wheeler
514 3003-04 GOLD RACER (Miss J Cunningham) I Dudgeon 7-11-3 M Richards 4
516 24010-0 MACOLIVER (A Bingley) J Old 6-11-3 S Morshead
517 /P03F2- MARK PAUL (K Higson) A Moore 8-11-3 G Moore
518 10200-P NEPCOOE (D Tyler) Mrs N Smith 6-11-3 M Perrett
521 /0-F030 TEN BEARS (Air Commodore C Kunkler) T M Jones 8-11-3 J Lovejoy 4
523 /0-040F STAR WHISTLER (Mrs N Parish) P Butler 7-10-12 G Newman
524 241-004 FRIDAY STREET (G Bishop) R Smyth 6-10-7 DOUBTFUL

11-8 Carved Opal, 5-2 Brave Hussar, 7-2 Green Bramble, 8 Donegal Prince, 12 Charter Party, Macoliver, 20 others.

3.30 HORLEY HURDLE (Div II: novices: £548: 2m) (20)

603 02F-0P0 BARTRA (F Hill) A Moore 6-11-7 G Moore
606 F04/00 GOLDEN BRIGADIER (Mrs S Bingley) J Old 6-11-7 S Morshead
607 30P-0 GOLDEN RAMBLER (J Howgego) B Wise 6-11-7 R Rowell
608 00/PP-P HANG LOOSE COUSIN (Mrs L Beasley) H Beasley 7-11-7 M Furlong
610 0 MAWAL (B) (J Ratcliffe) W Guest 7-11-7 J Francome
611 00080-0 RHYTHM STICK (M Rawlings) M Rawlings 7-11-7 D Hyde 4
613 CHEUNG SING (E Wat) Pat Mitchell 5-11-3 –
614 04 GOLDEN MINSTREL (W Gale) J Gifford 5-11-3 P Double
617 003P4- KNIGHTSBRIDGE GAME (D Wilson) D Wilson 5-11-3 P Scudamore
620 4- SOME SHOT (R Shaw) R Shaw 5-11-3 A Webber
622 3000-0P BRAVE INTENTION (Mrs C Howard) J Ffitch-Heyes 7-11-2 P Dever 4
624 0040-30 CHANTAGE (Stonewest Ltd) R Blakeney 5-10-12 R Linley
625 P RHEFFANOSA (Summerhill Stud Ltd) Miss A Sinclair 5-10-12 S Johnson
626 0 BAY FELLA (Mrs J Mills) J O'Donoghue 4-10-5 Mr B O'Leary 7
627 00 CELTIC PROMISE (H Hough) P Mitchell 4-10-5 R G Hughes
630 00 LACKBRIDGE (B) (Ld Chetwode) G Balding 4-10-5 B Reilly
631 U0F MAURIMAX (A Sims) Pat Mitchell 4-10-5 –
632 4020 NYPUS (G Park) Rex Carter 4-10-5 P Barton
633 00P2 ALANNOCHY (Mrs N Parish) P Butler 4-10-0 G Newman
634 04 FIONA THE FAIR (A Neaves) A Neaves 4-10-0 B Powell 7

7-2 Golden Minstrel, 6 Some Shot, Chantage, 7 Knightsbridge Game, 8 Mawal, Nypus, 10 Alannochy, 12 Fiona The Fair, Lackbridge, 20 others.

Lingfield selections

By Michael Seely

1.0 The Reject. 1.30 River Warrior. 2.0 Mossat. 2.30 Herr Capitan. 3.0 Carved Opal. 3.30 Golden Minstrel.

Sedgefield

GOING: good to soft

12.45 HASWELL HURDLE (Div I: novices: £611: 2m 4f) (15 runners)

1 0P ASSAY CHARLIE (Mrs M Lamb) D Lamb 6-11-9 R Lamb
2 220-143 BARLEY BRAKE (R Barr) R Barr 8-11-9 S Youlden 7
3 00004/P- DABERTO (J Longstaff) R Robinson 11-11-9 Mandy Harrison 7
4 00000- DURHAM EDITION (R Oxley) W A Stephenson 6-11-9 K Jones 4
5 00 FORT NELSON (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 6-11-9 E McIntyre
6 0-04200 FROSTY TOUCH (Mrs E Slack) Mrs E Slack 6-11-9 B Storey 4
7 0000-0 GRANGE MINSTREL (R Spicer) R Spicer 7-11-9 A Googan
8 0 LOCH EARN (R Wilson) Mrs S Cousins 6-11-9 T G Dun
12 0 PETE AND DUD (V Thompson) V Thompson 5-11-9 Mr M Thompson 7
13 00-0000 POLAR ICE (Mrs M Bostock) J Harris 8-11-9 J A Harris
15 0/0 REGAL MOSS (I Vickers) I Vickers 9-11-9 M Pepper 4
16 F00-00 SAUCEPOT (G Richards) G Richards 6-11-9 N Doughty
18 P0/P0 BARNS LASS (Mrs D Culham) Mrs D Culham 7-11-4 Mr R Robinson 7
19 0-00020 DENETOP LADY (F Musgrave) F Musgrave 7-11-4 Mr P Dun 7
20 0- DYNADEE (W Walton) W Walton 6-11-4 Mr L Hudson

3 Frosty Touch, 7-2 Durham Edition, 4 Saucepot, 9-2 Denetop Lady, 6 Barley Brake, 8 Fort Nelson, 12 others.

1.15 HASWELL HURDLE (Div II: novices: £611: 2m 4f) (17)

1 2 ANTONY JOE (BF) (D Daly) M Dickinson 5-11-9 R Earnshaw
2 0 AUTUMN PRINCE (W Walton) Mrs A Hamilton 5-11-9 B Storey 4
3 F0-00 BATTLEGROUND (J Jeffrey) J Jeffrey 6-11-9 Mr T Jeffrey 7
4 BEAM OF LIGHT (R Bethell) R Bethell 7-11-9 A Dickman
5 00-U00 BEAU LYON (Miss A Smith) R Cross 6-11-9 D Wilkinson
8 0U MISTER WHARLES (Mrs G Carter) J Townson 6-11-9 R Stronge 4
10 002000 ON THE SPOT (B) (M Thompson) V Thompson 5-11-9 Mr M Thompson 7
12 00 SANDCRACKER (G Hertas) M Ellerby 5-11-9 Mandy Harrison 7
14 0/P-F SAUCY TARTAN (G Pickering) P Wigham 6-11-9 –
17 0 WHISPERING KNIGHT (B) (J Mitchell) G Richards 5-11-9 N Doughty
21 0304 MAGGIES GIRL (Mrs M Whiteman) Denys Smith 5-11-4 J O'Neill
22 NEW LOOK (Mrs C Barron) T Barron 6-11-4 S Charlton
23 PRECIOUS SUE (S Calvert) R Whitaker 5-11-4 A McGlyn 7
25 0 SPARTANDO (Lady Arbuthnot) Lady Arbuthnot 5-11-4 D McCaskill
26 40 KUSHSHOON (A Grayshon) S Wiles 4-10-10 G Bradley
27 22P400 MOUNT RULE (R Gomersall) D Yeoman 4-10-10 K Jones 4
30 00 GOOD GOING GIRL (R Swiers) R Swiers 4-10-5 Mr N Totty 7

4-9 Antony Joe, 5 Mount Rule, 8 Maggie's Girl, 12 Sandcracker, 15 Whispering Knight.

1.45 SHOTTON CHASE (handicap: £1,039: 2m) (6)

2 311400- DON'T WAIT (D) (J Valks) W W Stephenson 8-11-6 R Lamb
3 0F000-0 HERONFORD (D) (Mrs V McKeon) J Townson 14-11-7 R Stronge 4
6 P412/0-P WILTON BEACON (B Ingamells) J Harris 8-10-11 J A Harris
9 443234 DR GUILLOTINE (D) (Mrs W Fairgrieve) W Fairgrieve 9-10-6 –
10 130DF-0 CRAWFORDJOHN (D) (Mrs C Barron) T Barron 9-10-5 S Charlton
11 4F0R32 SAINT-MUNN () (T Culham) Mrs D Culham 10-10-0 J O'Neill

11-8 Saint Munn, 5-2 Dr Guillotine, 9-2 Don't Wait, 12 Crawfordjohn, Heronford, 16 Wilton Beacon.

2.15 SPENNYMOOR CHASE (handicap: £1,038: 3m 600yd) (3)

1 202-441 WORTHY HEIRESS (CD) (E Robson) E Robson 9-12-6 C Pimlott
7 F132U4 TIERENEE (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 6-10-9 R Lamb
8 020P14/ REGAL ROOTS (CD) (Jk Wilson Walker) W A Stephenson 8-10-7 K Jones 4

1-2 Worthy Heiress, 9-4 Tierenee, 8 Regal Roots.

2.45 HAMSTERLEY CHASE (novices: £863: 2m 4f) (16)

2 3434P-1 CYBRANDIAN (I Bray) M H Easterby 6-11-10 Mr T Easterby
6 0/0P00-D BARRYPHILIPS DISCO (I Ender) W Whitaker 7-11-3 J O'Neill
8 00U00/4 BILLYJOHN (J Townson) J Townson 7-11-3 R Stronge 4
9 0F-UPPP BIRTLEY BOY (Mrs J Gledson) Mrs J Gledson 8-11-3 Mr J Walton
11 P0P0-00 CAROUSER (Steelflex Products) J Doyle 7-11-3 –
13 PU-0000 DRUMMONY (L Griffiths) L Griffiths 10-11-3 –
14 01F3-P0 GREENORE PRIDE (Andrew Baird) P O'Connor 7-11-3 S Jobar
15 0420-PP HIGH HILLS (B) (Mrs K Holmes) J Jefferson 10-11-3 M Hill 7
16 0-00 INDIAN MAIZE (Lady Renwick) Lady Renwick 11-11-3 Mr T Reed 7
17 00FF/U- JESTING SPIRIT (T Bell) D Lee 9-11-3 C Pimlott
19 04-43P0 OCEAN CRUISE (J Mason) J Mason 9-11-8 M Pepper 4
23 000-430 SCOTTISH AIR (T Justice) W A Stephenson 7-11-3 K Jones 4
25 044084 VISCOUNT (B) (Mrs V Thompson) V Thompson 10-11-3 Mr M Thompson 7
27 0313 VILLIERSTOWN (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 5-11-0 R Lamb
30 000P4P SOLDIER'S DREAM (J Wilson) W Fairgrieve 6-10-12 –
31 3F-P20F MIGUEL CLEMENT (Mrs M Haggas) M Dickinson 5-10-7 R Earnshaw

11-10 Cybrandian, 5-2 Miguel Clement, 9-2 Villierstown, 9 Scottish Air, 14 Viscount.

3.15 WITTON HURDLE (handicap: £1,085: 2m 4f) (14)

2 F3/01- SCOTTISH DREAM (D Redhead) G Richards 6-11-10 N Doughty
4 3233/U4 GO ON JOE (CD) (J Richardson) J Richardson 10-11-6 D Olham
5 0-P624F TYNEWALD MILLENIUM (Lt-Col R Riggall) Mrs C Cousins 8-11-0 K Teelan 7
6 200024 MR DENETOP (CD) (F Musgrave) F Musgrave 6-10-13 Mr J Dun 7
8 040-401 TECHNICAL MERIT (Mrs K Coulman) Mrs K Coulman 5-10-12 (10 ex) C McKillatrick 7
11 P000-0P BEAMOF (CB) (Mrs S Austin) P Curtis 5-10-9 D Wilkinson
14 311131 TROCADERO (C) (F Barlow) D Yeoman 5-10-8 K Jones 4
17 1203 CAST A SHADOW (C,BF) (A Duffield) J McNaughton 4-10-6 S Charlton
18 034300 TWAY (B) (CDL 44 Foods) M Naughton 5-10-3 J O'Neill
19 102002 LADY LAWYER (T Brockbank) J Brockbank 6-10-3 B Storey 4
22 313-000 THE BEGINNING (C) (Northumbria Leisure) W Storey 8-10-0 –
23 00P0-U0 VICTORY MORN (Exors late J Dixon) J Dixon 8-10-0 –
23 00P0-U0 TIT FOR TAT (Mrs P Reynolds) J Harris 5-10-0 J A Harris
25 00-00 INDIAN RETREAT (Lady Arbuthnot) Lady Arbuthnot 5-10-0 D McCaskill

100-30 Trocadero, Cast A Shadow, 9-2 Mr Denetop, 5 Scottish Dream, 8 Technical Merit, 9 Lady Lawyer, 12 Tway, 16 others.

Sedgefield selections

By Michael Seely

12.45 Frosty Touch. 1.15 Antony Joe. 1.45 Saint-Munn. 2.15 Worthy Heiress. 2.45 Cybrandian. 3.15 Lady Lawyer.

Ayr results

Going: Soft

12.45 DRONGAN HURDLE (Handicap: Conditional Jockeys £875: 2m)
RIVERS EDGE b g by Sharpen Up – Ebb and Flow (J Fry) 6-11-10 D Thompson (11-4) 1
Longcliffe J D Davies (7-4 fav) 2
Pohjola K Teelan (9-2) 3
TOTE: Win: £3.50. Places: £2.00, £1.40, £1.10. DF: £1.30. CSF: £7.82. Denys Smith at Bishop Auckland. 7l, 2l. Victory Boy (14-1) 4th. 8 ran.

1.15 DALRYMPLE HURDLE (Div I: novices: £748: 2m)
CENTRE ATTRACTION b g by Little Buskins – Money For Fun (N Mason) 5-11-6 N Doughty (6-2) 1
Respighi M Ennis (25-1) 2
Busorm T Easterby (4-5 fav) 3
TOTE: Win: £4.10. Places: £1.30, £8.20, £1.00. DF: £120.60. CSF: £54.24. G Richards at Greystoke. 7l, Nk. Gilded Stracomer (10-1) 4th. 10 ran.

1.45 KILMARNOCK CHASE (Handicap: £2,406: 3m 110yd)
TUDOR FOLLY br g by Mummy's Pet – Anne Boleyne (J Lisle) 8-10-13 R Lamb (6-4 fav) 1
Royal Minstrel A Broughan (14-1) 2
Chance Command J O'Neill (6-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £2.20. Places: £1.00, £3.70. DF: £15.90. CSF: £15.75. W A Stephenson at Bishop Auckland. ½l, 10l. Cockle Strand (6-2) 4th. 5 ran.

2.15 STAIR HURDLE (Handicap: £1,637: 2m 6f)
FULL MEASURE b g by Manelek – Replete (I Williams) 8-11-0 A Broughan (9-2) 1
Secret Finale P A Charlton (5-2) 2
Islander C Pimlott (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £4.40. Places: £2.10, £1.70. DF: £8.80. CSF: £15.79. D Moorhead at Newcastle upon Tyne. ¾l, 10l. Camden (100-30) 4th. The Divider 7-4 fav. 6 ran.

2.45 KINCAIDSTON CHASE (Novices: £1,686: 2m 4f)
VISCONTI b g by Lord Gayle – Jane Shaw (R Gunner) 8-11-13 R Earnshaw (1-3) 1
Swift Messenger J O'Neill (10-1) 2
Arpal Conquest N Doughty (13-2) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.20. Places: £1.00, £2.20, £1.40. DF: £3.90. CSF: £5.32. M Dickinson at Harewood. ¾l, 10l. Piper's Knoll (33-1) 4th. 9 ran. NR Chef Marcel, Tartan Trader.

3.15 DALRYMPLE HURDLE (Div II: novices: £749: 2m)
BLACK FALCON b h by Irish Ruler – Sebago (W Graham) 4-10-8 P A Charlton (15-8 fav) 1
Music Be Magic N Doughty (9-1) 2
Stunnard J O'Neill (9-2) 3
TOTE: Win: £2.90. Places: £1.70, £1.50, £2.80. DF: £4.80. CSF: £7.73. M Lambert at Malton. 4l, 10l. Blackdeal (13-2) 4th. 10 ran. NR: Tot. Placepot: £6.90.

● The meeting at Towcester was called off because of snow.

OL[redacted]C

Howell [redacted] in criti[redacted]

From D[redacted]

The International O[redacted] Committee have expressed s[redacted] and criticism of those recom[redacted] dations of the Howell inquir[redacted] sponsorship which concern[redacted] administration and financial [redacted] ties.

It is claimed by them [redacted] Howell's committee of 11 co[redacted] ted no interviews which could [redacted] given them a proper insight in[redacted] IOC's affairs, and that the inq[redacted] recommendations involve the [redacted] ible scrutiny of the IOC by [redacted] international bodies which ar[redacted] competent to do so.

Juan Samaranch, the Preside[redacted] the IOC, told me here yesterda[redacted] can understand that Denis How[redacted] committee is concerned, but so[redacted] we. It was surprising that [redacted] recommendations should be m[redacted] without formally consulting [redacted] know that Mary Glen Haig [redacted] among 120 people interviewed, [redacted] she has, for only a short time, be[redacted] member of the IOC. Yet I am [redacted] the Howell Report can do a g[redacted] deal of good in relation [redacted] sponsorship in Britain."

What the IOC are in effect say[redacted] is that the only body capable [redacted] controlling their activities [redacted] themselves – which in a sense [redacted] precisely the complaint of Howel[redacted] committee, as indeed it also [redacted] regarding FIFA, international foo[redacted] ball's governing body.

The 73 recommendations a[redacted] conclusions of the inquiry, com[redacted] missioned by the Central Council [redacted] Physical Recreation and publishe[redacted] in November after two years' wor[redacted] included the following:

[redacted] of ons of ort ial of ure s. to pic nal pic ure ili- the the ble ith is ake the of by the nd lso of me ns. is has ark an- lly. ve ial rts SS hat een

G[redacted]

The hardy annuals of Rye

By Nicholas Keith

If the inhabitants of northern Scotland want to know the source of their New Year blizzards, they should ignore the weather man, who points the accusing finger at North America and turn their attention to Rye. Here the members of the Oxford and Cambridge Golfing Society are making their annual bleak mid-winter pilgrimage in search of the President's Putter, an event which traditionally attracts some of the worst weather imaginable.

Among the contestants in the event which starts today is Ted Dexter, formerly England's cricket captain, who has appeared in three finals and won the putter for the first time last year. On that occasion his victim in the semi-final was Donald Steel, who was the then holder and was trying to improve on his three victories. These two have been drawn in the fourth quarter and in his first match Dexter must overcome the previous finalist in Aldrich Blake.

Indeed the bottom half of the draw may supply the eventual winner because it is packed with experience and expertise. In the third quarter lie Holmes (three wins) and Reece (two). All the hardy combatants will be hoping for a continuation of yesterday's fair weather: cold and sunny with a moderate wind.



Dexter: holds putter

[redacted]

TABLE TEN[redacted]

Miss Witt ma[redacted] jump in Euro[redacted]

By a Special Corresp[redacted]

Karen Witt, the English national champion who is for the first time emerging from the shadow of the great Jill Hammersley-Parker, has become eligible for the European Top Twelve Championships in Bratislava next month, also for the first time.

Miss Witt will play in the event, one of the sport's most important competitions, because she has risen to No 12, her highest position, in the European ranking list issued yesterday. That is a rise of 11 places after wins against three players in the top 10 in the first half of the season.

Mrs Hammersley-Parker, the former European champion who recently retired and gave birth to her first child, drops out of the list altogether for the first time in a decade. One other notable omission is Olga Nemes, aged 15, the Top Twelve champion, who earlier in the season defected from Romania to West Germany.

One of Miss Witt's victims, Marie Hrachova, of Czechoslovakia, takes over th[redacted] Vriesel[redacted] Europe[redacted] Appelg[redacted] Europe[redacted] leading [redacted] unexpe[redacted] Cup in [redacted] England [redacted] the two [redacted] 30 nar[redacted] teenaged [redacted] women's [redacted] teenaged [redacted] No 12 [redacted] therefore [redacted] Twelve. [redacted] land's oth[redacted] six.

Men: 1, M [redacted] (Swe); 3, E L[redacted] Kalinic (Yug[redacted] (Pol); 8, D S[redacted] 10, M Orlows[redacted] Carlsson (Sw[redacted]

Women: 1, [redacted] (USSR); 3, F[redacted] (Neth); 5, G S[redacted] Batinic (Yug[redacted] Kovalenko (U[redacted] Urban (Hun); [redacted]

BADMINTON

Baddeley out on [redacted]

By Richard Eaton

Steve Baddeley, the 22-year-old left-hander from Sussex, was named as the undisputed England No 1 yesterday in the first national ranking list to be issued in mid-season.

Baddeley's superb win over the world champion from Indonesia, Icuk Sugiarto, and the Malaysian No 1, Misbun Sidek, were major factors in his new ranking. He was previously joint No 1 with Nick Yates, who drops to No 2 despite also beating Sugiarto recently.

Andy Goode, the new national champion, climbs only slightly from fourth equal to third equal as a reward for his success.

The new women's national champion, Fiona Elliott, moves from sixth equal to fifth, while the continued international success of Helen Troke, the Commonwealth champion and recent runner-up in the Famou[redacted] Warrington [redacted] place at No [redacted]

The mos[redacted] that of th[redacted] champion, [redacted] ranked at fi[redacted] injury she su[redacted] October. Mis[redacted] an operation [redacted] crutches, still [redacted] to defend her [redacted] in the Europ[redacted] Preston in Ap[redacted]

MEN: 1, S Badd[redacted] (Kent); 3, S Butler [redacted] (Herts); 5, K Jolly [redacted] G Milton (Essex); [redacted] Tailor (Middlesex); [redacted] WOMEN: 1, Miss [redacted] Beckman (Surrey); [redacted] 4, Mrs S Podger [redacted] (Surrey); 6, Miss G [redacted] Massam (Warwick[redacted] (Essex); 9, Miss [redacted] Miss J Edwards (Su[redacted]

also on page 22

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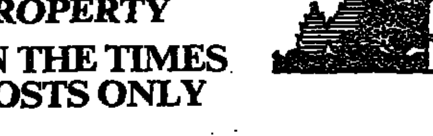
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General Appoint[redacted]

HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

Workshops for the self-emplo[redacted]

Helen Steadman outlines a scheme whereby premises and services are made available to small firms

Recently a number of disused factories, warehouses and other buildings have been renovated and sub-divided into workshops suitable for small businesses and self-employed craftsmen. The conversions have been carried out by private organizations and public bodies, with the aim of encouraging the creation of small firms and finding uses for redundant industrial floor space. It is also hoped that the growth of small firms will help to create jobs, particularly in run-down inner-city areas where many of these developments are situated.

The range of activities that can be carried out in small workshops is extensive. Craft and design-based undertakings such as pottery, glass-blowing, jewelry-making, engraving, and fashion and textile design are particularly suited to premises of this type, but light engineering, publishing and typesetting, office services and any other type of small business that does not depend on passing trade could function satisfactorily from a multi-let building.

In some instances, support facilities for the small firm are provided as well as space to work. These include business advice, help with raising loans, exhibition facilities and marketing services. Rent concessions may be available to those who are just starting up.

Meeting expansion

Most important is the interchange of ideas, skills and facilities that can come about when dozens of individual craftsmen and small firms are all working at the same premises. Not only does the presence of others in similar or complementary fields act as a boost to morale; it may also help a business to survive. For example, sub-contracting and peak load job-sharing may be arranged with other occupants of the building; it may be possible to arrange to share or borrow expensive equipment which would otherwise be beyond the means of the individual; and services such as typing, printing and photocopying are often available on the spot.

A further advantage is that if the operation should expand, it might be possible to move a larger unit within the same premises, thus avoiding the problems connected with a change of business address.

Flexibility is an important requirement, since it is difficult to make a long-term commitment to a workshop without knowing whether an untried business idea will succeed. The use lof "licence agreements" for letting small workshops means that it is easy to move in and out and reduces the need for initial capital. Some are available merely on payment of a month's rent as a deposit, a month's rent in advance, and agreement to giove four week's notice before leaving. The drawback to this type of arrangement, though, is that it does not offer protection against rent increases.

I visited several workshop complexes to discuss with tenants some of the problems involved in setting up a business within such a framework. The individuals interviewed, some of whom were fresh from art colleges, certainly seemed to be functioning effectively.

Keeping costs down is crucial in the early stages of setting up a new enterprise. One person was renting a workshop of 150 square feet for £23 per week, though most of those who were interviewed were paying rather more than this. Shared between two or three, a rent of £23-£50 becomes manageable for those who are starting out in business, particularly when it is an inclusive figure, covering rates, heating and management charges. Moreover, at two sites electricity charges were included in the monthly rent. The people interviewed stressed that it is important to check exactly what one is paying for, and what extra costs need to be allowed for.

To achieve a minimal outlay, several people had initially considered or tried working from home. Sometimes, however, this is not possible, because there is insufficient space for equipment, planning restrictions prevent the use of one's home for "light industry", or because of other factors such as noise causing a disturbance to the neighbours. Psychologically, separating work from home has its advantages. Once the workshop has been locked up in the evening, there is nothing more one can do, whereas the person working from home may constantly be concerned with the worries and responsibilities of the business.

The company of other people involved in similar enterprises can act as a stimulus, whereas working at home is sometimes isolating and depressing. This was the experience of Alison Combe, who makes fashion accessories, and has tried both working from home and renting a workshop. She finds the workshop makes her feel "more businesslike"; increases her confidence and brings her into contact with other designers with whom she can discuss her creative ideas.

Lindsey Othen, a ceramic jeweller, was enthusiastic about sharing skills and facilities in a workshop complex. Although she has only just moved into her workshop, she has been able to arrange to share facilities with potters and glassworkers, and has already found an outlet for her work through contacts made there.

Location is another significant factor which affects not only the cost, but also the image of the business. If customers or agents are likely to visit the site, then accessibility, availability of parking space, and the appearance of the building are important. Michael Fryer and Andy Gee, fashion designers, looked [redacted] premises intially, so[redacted] slightly cheaper tha[redacted] they chose, but de[redacted] preferred to be in a [redacted] common areas were [redacted] and which would be c[redacted]

In other instances [redacted] of the building does n[redacted] workshop is simply [redacted] goods are produced, a[redacted] customers take pla[redacted] premises. For Richa[redacted] Peter Lacey, who hav[redacted] sandwich delivery [redacted] Central London locati[redacted] but smart premises a[redacted] they deliver the sandw[redacted] to their customers' offi[redacted]

Another important [redacted] question of 24-hour [redacted] workshop. One may n[redacted] night on occasions, [redacted] particularly urgent pie[redacted] all the places I visited [redacted] were able to come in [redacted] the day or night; one[redacted] had started off on a 9[redacted] basis, but the managem[redacted] they had to extend the [redacted] to enable the tenants t[redacted] evenings and at weeken[redacted]

The main difficulty [redacted] trying to establish a sm[redacted] raising finance, and [redacted] interviewed all gave this [redacted] problem. Some of the [redacted] started very recently, h[redacted] been helped by the [redacted] Services Commission E[redacted] lowance Scheme. Design[redacted] ployed people who want [redacted] own businesses, this sche[redacted] an allowance of £40 per w[redacted] 52 weeks to help one [redacted] start-up phase. It is [redacted] necessary to have £1,000 [redacted] the business, and this was [redacted] main stumbling block.

Finance problem[redacted]

Of those who had starte[redacted] enterprise allowance was [redacted] one had been able to obt[redacted] from the Crafts Council [redacted] others it was a matter of an[redacted] part-time employment o[redacted] workshop, or waiting [redacted] business was generating [redacted] cash to finance a move into [redacted] Michael Fryer and Andy [redacted] fashion designers, started [redacted] ness while they were st[redacted] college, and by the ti[redacted] graduated they had sufficient [redacted] justify a workshop rent.

Small craft workshops are [redacted] to create jobs on any significa[redacted] but they do provide a satisf[redacted] adequately rewarding way o[redacted] the individual self-employed [redacted] At a time when traditional [redacted] ment opportunities are sh[redacted] they can provide a viable alte[redacted] for those with the initiative to [redacted] produce and market their ow[redacted] The monetary rewards may [redacted] high, but a life style which co[redacted] job satisfaction and individual [redacted] omy is in itself a valuable asset[redacted]

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DEATHS

YUILLE. – On December 31 1983, peacefully & suddenly in hospital Janet Margaret, a much loved and caring aunt to 3 generations. Funeral at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip on Friday, January 6 at 1.15 pm (West Chapel). Flowers (not wreaths please) and enquiries to T. A. Element, Pinner, tel 01 866 0324 or donations to The Treasurer, St Mary Abbots Church, Restoration Fund, Vicarage Gate, London, W8.

EDUCATIONAL

The Principal,
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from whom further particulars and an application form may be obtained

also on page 19

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a new comedy by CHARLES DYER
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Back on stage the legendary "FAGIN"
RON MOODY
"In Lionel Bart's miraculous Musical" FT
"OLIVER!"
"Consider yourself lucky to see it again!" D Mir

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL ... EC2 01-638 ... Tomor 8.00 ... Orchestra, L... Society, Nicholas ...

Today's television and radio [redacted]nes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM: News and information service, available on all television sets.

6.30 Breakfast Time: Today's presenters are Frank Bough and Selina Scott. The Thursday "specials" include Breakfast Time Doctor (between 8.30 and 9.00), and Glynn Christian's food and cooking item (also between 8.30 and 9.00). Regular items include news at 6.30 and half-hourly until 8.30; Sport (6.40 and 8.40), Television preview (6.55) and Morning Papers (7.18 and 8.18).

9.00 The New Adventures of Flash Gordon: American cartoon; 9.25 Why Don't You . . . ?: leisure ideas from Scottish children; 9.50 Wacky Races: cartoon; 10.00 Play Chess! includes girls v boys match; 10.10 Jackanory: Bernard Cribbins reads from Joan Aiken's Mortimer's Portrait on Glass (r); 10.25 Paddington; 10.30 Play School: Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs; 10.55 Mickey and Donald.

11.15 Cartoon; 11.25 The Country Game: Gisburne Park Estate (Lancs) v Broughton Hall (Yorkshire). The presenter is Susan King.

12.00 Look Back with Noakes: Sailing around Guernsey; 12.30 News After Noon; 12.57 London news.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Ian Lavender and Mary Tamm, co-stars of tonight's BBC2 comedy series *The Hello Goodbye Man* are interviewed; 1.45 King Rollo: cartoon; 1.50 Bric-a-Brac: with Brian Cant (r).

2.00 International Tennis: Live coverage of the Barratt World Doubles Championship, from Royal Albert Hall.

3.50 Ivor the Engine; 3.55 Play School: It's Thursday; 4.20 Heathcliff: cartoon; 4.25 Jackanory: Joanna David reads from M M Kaye's The Ordinary Princess (r); 4.40 Fonz and the Happy Days Gang: cartoon; 5.05 John Craven's Newsround; 5.10 Blue Peter. Two amazing radio-controlled beasts, especially created for a new fantasy opera called *Where the Wild Things Are*, will go rampaging around the studio.

5.40 Sixty Minutes: The line-up is: 5.40 News; 5.53 Regional magazines; 6.15 weather; 6.38 Closing headlines.

6.40 Doctor Who: Part one of a new four-part adventure Warriors of the Deep. It is Peter Davison's last stint as the time and space traveller.

7.05 Tomorrow's World: Science and technology magazine.

7.30 Top of the Pops: A celebration of two decades of this programme. With John Peel and David Jensen.

.10 The Showmen: Paul Heiney meets some of the folk who enliven our fairs with their "daredevil" acts and "incredible" feats of bravery (see Choice).

00 News: read by Sue Lawley.

25 Film: The Shootist (1976) John Wayne's last film, before cancer ended his life. He plays, appropriately enough, a legendary gunfighter who is dying of cancer. The "shootist" decides that the short time he has to live will be put to the best possible use. Co-starring James Stewart and Lauren Bacall. With Richard Boone, Ron Howard, and Hugh O'Brian. Directed by Don Siegel.

.00 International Tennis: Highlights from the Barratt World Doubles Championship played today at the Royal Albert Hall.

1.50 News headlines. And weather prospects. Closedown at 11.55.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain: with Nick Owen and Anne Diamond. Today's "specials" include The Family Business (at home with stars and their families at 8.05; and films with Paul Gambaccini (8.35). Regular items include news at 6.30, and then half-hourly until 8.30; sport (6.35 and 7.35). Guest of the Day (7.40) and Competition Time (8.27).

9.00 Roland's Winter Wonderland: with Roland Rat.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines: Followed by another edition of the learning-without-tears programme Sesame Street; 10.25 Wilkie in Winter. David Wilkie on winter sports activities; 10.50 Little House on the Prairie: alfresco drama about a new teacher who meets with opposition (r). 11.40 The Little Rascals: old, short Hollywood comedy "in the Our Gang vein".

12.00 Emma and Grandpa: for the youngsters (repeated at 4.00); 12.10 Get up and Go! with Beryl Reid (r); 12.30 The Sullivans: family drama serial from Australia.

1.00 News; 1.20 Thames News; 1.30 A Plus: How accupressure and aromatherapy can improve the way you look and feel now that the festive season is ending.

2.00 Crown Court: The verdict in the case involving a surrogate parent and the death of her child. With Andrew Cruickshank and Judy Parfitt; 2.30 The Agatha Christie Hour: The Case of the Middle-Aged Wife. Maurice Denham plays the practioner in human happiness, with Gwen Watford as the wife who needs some. With Peter Jones (r); 3.30 Sons and Daughters: Australian drama serial.

4.00 Children's ITV; Emma and Grandpa (r); 4.15 Batfink: cartoon; 4.20 Do It: Junior reporter Sheelagh Gilbey tries to "sell" her idea for a free children's supplement; 4.45 This is Me: The story of Lee Ross who wanted a part in he London stage musical *Bugsy Malone*. 5.15 The Young Doctors: Australian medical world serial.

5.45 News; 6.00 Thames News; 6.30 Thames Sport: includes an appetizer for Saturday's FA Cup Third Round. Simon Reed talks to Jayne Torvill and Cristopher Dean.

7.00 Knight Rider: The hunt for a crazed killer in swampy bayou country. With David Hasselhoff.

8.00 Hotel: A senator's extra-marital relationship with a journalist threatens his chances of running for President. And Mrs Cabot's scheming niece wants Christine's job. With James Brolin, Anne Baxter and Lynn Redgrave.

9.00 Shelley: Rejected by his wife, the layabout (Hywel Bennett) indulges in some sexual fantasies keyed to the disturbingly attractive Anne-Marie (Vanessa Knox-Mawer).

9.30 News from ITN. And Thames news headlines.

10.00 Thank You, Mrs Clinkscales. Witty and nostalgic play, by Alan Plater, set in the 1950s - specifically, New Year's Eve, 1951. The cast includes Earl Rhodes Philip Batty, Nick Conway, Clive Duncan, Richard Tolan and Anne Stallybrass (see Choice).

11.25 Boat Show 1984: Bob Risher and Wendy Fitzpatrick report on some of the exhibits on show at the Earls Court Exhibition Centre in London.

12.25 Night Thoughts: from the Rev Peter Lewis, chaplain of Haileybury College.



Nick Conway (left) and Ray Mort: Thank You, Mrs Clinkscales (ITV, 10.00pm).

● Alan Plater's play THANK YOU, MRS CLINKSCALES (ITV, 10.00pm) is Plater in both Hamlet and clown moods, the roles being switched when we are least expecting it. In one important respect, however, the dividing line is clearly drawn: it is the dying moments of 1951 and the first stirrings of 1952 (the play takes place on New Year's Eve, and it might have been an excellent idea to transmit it five nights ago) that signal fundamental changes in the attitudes of the five young chums who meet in the front parlour of a Yorkshire terrace house to commit the old year to the grave with many a parting quip. The really clever thing about Mr Plater's play is the way that two very diverse characters, the father of one of the lads (a remarkably astute performance by Ray Mort), and the girlfriend of another (Elizabeth

CHOICE

Edmonds) manage independently [redacted] teach the boys how to learn the truth about themselves. It is Mr Plater's own voice that brings the [redacted] play to its conclusion: none of it actually happened, he says, but much of it is true. The latter fact is [redacted] think, self-evident.

● THE SHOWMEN (BBC 1, 8.10pm) is about some summer phenomena that, with a lot of luck, will survive the summer and (with even more luck) still be around nex[redacted] summer too. They are the showground wonders, the human cannonballs, the men in exploding coffins and those who chain themselves inside sacks in the path of advancing steamrollers: the women who play Russian Roulette [redacted]

BBC 2

2.10 Film: Dear Brigitte (1965) Warm-hearted comedy, with James Stewart as the absent-minded professor whose eight-year-old son (Billy Mumy) is a child prodigy: a human computer. To prove that he really *is* human, he harbours a secret passion for Brigitte Bardot (who appears, as herself, in the film). With Fabian, Glynis Johns, and John Williams. Director: Henry Koster.

3.45 International Tennis: Live coverage, from the Royal Albert Hall, of the Barratt World Doubles Championship.

5.35 News Summary: with sub-titles, and weather prospects.

5.40 Raining Batons: Documentary about two young contenders (the European twirling champion, Lesley Wood, from Glasgow; and the world title holder, Glenn Bittenbender, from Maryland, in the United States) in the 1983 World Championships, held in Milan last August.

6.30 Open Space: Freedom Fighter Lives Forever. A film about the Bournemouth-based disabled rock band, all of whom suffer from muscular dystrophy. They do not expect to live much beyond their mid-twenties. The money they raise goes to the charity called Freedom Fighters for the Furtherance of Music for Disabled People.

7.05 Film: Captain Horatio Hornblower (1951) No-expense-spared film version of C S Forester's trilogy, with the Napoleonic wars as their backdrop. Gregory Peck (physically not ideal for the role) plays Hornblower, who goes to the Pacific on a secret mission. Virginia Mayo supplies the love interest. With Robert Beatty and James Robertson Justice. Directed by Raoul Walsh.

9.00 The Hello Goodbye Man: New comedy series begins. The work of David Nobbs (he wrote the Reginald Perrin comedies), it has Ian Lavender as the pharmaceuticals salesman who vies with a colleague (Paul Chapman) for the affections of the girl in the office (Mary Tamm).

9.30 Forty Minutes: 1984 – Voices in a City. The film takes George Orwell at his word when he wrote that although he did not believe the nightmare world of his book would ever happen, "we may have something resembling it." There is a gleaming new world in Newcastle, as well as areas which are crumbling and empty, and, to Newcastle, the Forty Minutes cameras duly went.

10.10 World Darts: Third quarter-final of the Embassy World Professional Championship.

10.55 Newsnight.

11.40 World Darts: More highlights from today's play in the Embassy World Championship. Ends at 12.15.

CHANNEL 4

3.15 Film: Smilin' Through (1932*). The archetypal weepie, with Norma Shearer as the orphan who falls in love with a murderer's son. With Fredric March and Leslie Howard, infinitely preferable to the 1941 remake with Jeanette MacDonald and Gene Raymond. Directed by Sidney Franklin.

5.00 Madam: Checkmate. Dame Ninette de Valois takes her principal dancers through the final rehearsal of Bliss's ballet: Margaret Barbeiri, David Ashmole, David Bintley and Sherilyn Kennedy (See the full ballet on Channel 4 this coming Saturday).

5.30 Everybody Here: Multi-cultural children's programme. The actress Marina Sirtis tells this week's story. Lots of Finchely dogs have a lot of fun, and a lady is cut in half (r).

6.00 Barriers: Another chance to see all 20 episodes of William Corlett's prize-winning drama serial about a young lad (Benedict Taylor) and his search for his real parents (his adoptive parents have been drowned in a sailing accident).

6.30 Gardeners' Calendar: with Hannah Gordon and the team of experts from the Royal Horticultural Society's gardens at Wisley. Today: jobs to do in January. Advice about winter flowering shrubs; making a rock garden; and how to prune young apple trees.

7.00 Channel Four News. And, at 7.50, Comment: A platform for the views of Patrick Deuchar, who is a promoter of tennis tournaments.

8.00 Treasure Hunt: The return of the remarkable series of races against time, with Anneka Rice as the helicoptering girl who gets her instructions from hard-pressed competitors back in the studio. The contestants tonight (much helped by Kenneth Kendall) are Terence and Gaynor Bailey, from Clwyd, and the treasure hunt takes place in the area around Rochester in Kent.

9.00 The Far Pavilions: The third and final part of this spectacular television version of M M Kaye's best-seller, filmed entirely in India. A disillusioned Ash (Ben Cross) decides to resign his commission in the elite Corps of Guides. But he is asked to undertake one final task – to act as intelligence agent for the Guides in Kabul. Co-starring Omar Sharif as Koda Dad, the Pathan Master of Horse.

10.55 Soap: Eunice and Dutch elope.

11.25 Our Lives: Final film in this true-life series about young London East Enders. Tonight – three youngsters who live in two worlds. They were born in England of Pakistani parents, and they return to their mother country when one of them becomes engaged. Ends at 12.10am.

Radio 4

6.00 Newsbriefing.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary. 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
8.43 1066 And All That by W C Sellar and R J Yeatman. Read by Arthur Marshall and Barry Justice. (4). 8.57 Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Ray Gosling – In the House of . . . Len Rush, a much respected figure in the pigeon-racing world (2).
9.30 The Living World: 'Let's Hear It Again'.
10.00 News; Conversation Piece. Sue MacGregor talks to Ulster playwright Bill Morrison.
10.30 Morning Story: 'The Last Good Day' by Ruth Nicholl. Read by Kate Lee.
10.45 Daily Service†.
11.00 News; Travel; The Divided State. A radio portrait of Winifred Holtby, who wrote South Riding. With Alison Fiske (r).
11.48 Enquire within.
12.00 News; You and Yours.
12.27 Get the Most Out of Your Body. With Dr Rob Buckman.† 12.55 Weather; Programme News.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour. Today's edition includes a feature about the risks and advantages of women waiting until the late Thirties or even 40 before having children. There is also the fourth instalment of Over the Bridge.
3.00 Afternoon Theatre: The Mouse Race. By Michael Toft. The story of a salesman (played by Andrew Hay) who resorts to back-handers (ie bribes) to get customers to buy his wares. With John Jardine and James Tomlinson.
4.00 News; Just After Four. The influence of Dutch immigrants on American cooking.
4.10 Bookshelf at the Poetry Olympics (r).
4.40 Story Time: 'The Wind in the Willows' by Kenneth Grahame, abridged in 12 parts (11). The [redacted]

[redacted]

Rachmaninov's Symphonic Movement 1: youth.†
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Haydn. We hear, on records, the Baryton Trio, No 107 in D; The Piano Sonata in A flat, H XV1 46 (played by Malcolm Binns); and the Symphony No 59 (Fire).†
10.00 Gerald Finzi: the London Phil play the Nocturne (New Year Music), Op 7, and the Philharmonia Orchestra play the Concerto for clarinet and string orchestra, Op 31 (with Thea King, clarinet).†
10.40 Bartok Arranged for Violin and Piano: with Gyorgy Pauk (violin) and Peter Frankl (piano). We hear the Hungarian Folk Songs (arr Orszagh), the Sonatina (arr Gertler), for Children (arr Zathureczky) and the Rumanian Dances (arr Szekely).†
11.15 Chamber Orchestras of Europe: a recital by the Polish Chamber Orchestra. Part one. Handel's Concerto Grosso, Op6 No 11; and Bach's Concerto for Two Violins in D minor, BWV 1043. Interval reading at 12.05. †
12.10 Recital: part two. Handel's Concerto Grosso in D minor, Op 6 No 10. †
1.00 News.
1.05 Brahms: the Israel Piano Quartet play the Piano Quartet in A, Op 26 (with Pnina Salzman at the piano). †
1.50 Bach: Christmas Oratorio. The work is heard in its entirety. The first three cantatas can be heard between 1.50 and 3.20, and the remaining three from 3.25 to 4.55. There is an interval reading at 3.20 approximately. The Evangelist is sung by Richard Morton (tenor). The other soloists are: Patrizia Kwella (sop), Paul Esswood (counter ten), Wynford Evans (ten) and Brian Rayner Cook (baritone). With the London Bach Society Choir and the Steinitz Bach Players. This is a recording of a public performance given in the Royal Festival Hall last month. †
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: Composers who wrote variations on the celebrated "cobbler's patch. The presenter is Fritz Spiegl.
6.30 Bandstand. Central Band of the RAF play Robert Washburn's Impressions of Cairo; and Vincent Persichetti's Symphony No 6. †
7.00 Jane Manning and Friends: The soprano in a concert at the Wigmore Hall. The accompanist is Susan Bradshaw. We hear Dallapiccola's Quattro liriche di Antonia Machado; Judith Weir's King Harold's Saga for solo voice (first broadcast in the United Kingdom); and Webern's Three Songs, Op. †
7.30 The Duchess's Diary: Robin Chapman's play is about a young Spanish noblewomen who believes that Cervantes has cruelly misrepresented her in his *Don Quixote*. It shows how profoundly this belief affects her life. Starring Maureen O'Brien. There is an interlude at 8.10. The second part of the The Duchess's Diary begins at 8.15 approximately.
9.00 Tippet, Bartok and Messiaen: Philip Mead (piano) plays Tippett's Sonata No 2; Bartok's Suite Op 14; and Messiaen's Canteyodjaya. †
9.40 At the End of Lonely Street: Kika Markham reads the short story by Roy Kelly.
10.00 Music in Our Time: The Nash Ensemble play Nigel Osbourne's Fantasia; John Hopkin's Cantilever; and John Marlow Rhys's Capriccio. These are all first broadcast performances. †
11.00 The Complete Webern: the Three Songs. Op post for soprano and orchestra; and the Cantata No 1, Op 29. With Phyllis Bryn-Julson (soprano) and the London Sinfonietta, and the London Sinfonietta Chorus. †
11.15 News. Until 11.18.

Radio 2

5.00am Colin Berry †. 7.30 Ray Moore †. 10.00 Jimmy Young †. 12.00pm Music while you work is played today by Pianorama †. 12.30 Gloria Hunniford †incl. 2.30 Ed Stewart †incl. 3.02 Sports Desk. 4.00 David Hamilton †incl. 4.02, 5.30 Sport Desk. 5.00 John Dunn †incl. 6.45 Sports and Classified Results (mf only) 7.30 Marching and Waltzing. The Band of the Coldstream Guards †. 8.30 Country Club with Wally Whyton †. 9.30 Star Sound Extra. Nick Jackson asks what's new at the movies... 9.57 Sports Desk. 10.00 I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue with Tim Brooke-Taylor and William Rushton, Graeme Garden and Barry Cryer. The chairman: Humphrey Lyttelton. 10.30 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight (stereo from midnight). 1.00am Grand Hotel with Max Jaffa and the Palm Court Orchestra †. 2.00-5.00 Richard Clegg presents You and the Night and the Music †.

Radio 1

News on the half hour from 6.30pm until 9.30pm and then at 12.00 midnight (MF/MW) 6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith, incl. 12.30 Newsbeat. 1.05 Radio 1 Day-to-Day Challenge. 2.00 Steve Wright. 4.30 Peter Powell, incl. 5.30 Newsbeat. 6.05 Top 30 album chart. 7.00 David Jensen. 10.00-12.00am John Peel†. VHF RADIOS 1 and 2. 5.00am With Radio 2. 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Country Style. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The Painter of Signs. 8.30 John Peel. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Edward Elgar: The Making of a Composer. 10.15 Monitor. 10.30 Frank Muir Goes Into . . 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 New Ideas. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Top Twenty. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 The Pleasure's Yours. 2.30 Discovery. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Assignment. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Meridian. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 9.15 Ulster Newsletter. 9.20 In the Meantime. 9.30 Business Matters. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Radio Theatre. 1.15 Outlook: News Summary. 1.45 Ulster Newsletter. 1.50 In the Meantime. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Personal Impact. 2.30 Talking about Music. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Business Matters. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Country Style. 5.45 The World Today.

(All times in GMT)

[F]REQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: [2]00kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World [S]ervice MF 648kHz/463m.

BBC 1 Wales 12.57-1.00 pm News of Wales headlines. 3.48-3.50 News of Wales headlines. 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Wales Today. 11.50 News headlines; News of Wales headlines. Scotland 10.55 am-12.00 The Untied Shoelaces Show with Tiger Tim Stevens. 12.56-1.00 pm The Scottish News. 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Scotland: Sixty Minutes. 11.50 News Headlines; Scottish news summary. Northern Ireland 12.57-1.00 pm. Northern Ireland news. 3.48-3.50 Northern Ireland News. 5.53 (Part of Sixty Minutes) Scene Around Six. 11.50 News headlines. Northern Ireland news headlines. England 5.53 pm.(Part of Sixty Minutes). 11.55 Close.

S4C Starts 2.20pm Ffalabalam. 2.35 Interval. 3.00 Be Your Own Boss. 3.25 Flashback. 3.55 Country Crisis? 4.20 Madam. 4.50 Guto Goch A Malwen. 5.05 Slop Slafins. 5.30 Abbott and Costello Show. 6.00 Brookside. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Cefn Gwlad. 8.00 Coleg. 8.30 Childhood. 9.25 Far Pavilions. 11.20 Rafaella Carra In Mexico. 11.50 Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 9.25am-9.30 Day Ahead. 10.25 Professor Kitzel. 10.30 Crazy World of Sport. 10.55 Friends of my Friends. 11.20 Cartoon. 11.30-12.00 3-2-1 Contact. 1.20pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 At Ease. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.25 Police Six. 6.35-7.00 Crossroads. 12.25am News. Closedown.

[redacted]SION VARIATIONS

HTV [redacted] Father M[redacted] a Time . [redacted] 3.30-4.0[redacted] Three Li[redacted] 7.00 Cro[redacted]

HTV W[redacted] at Six. [redacted]

GRANA[redacted] Adventur[redacted] 12.00 Lau[redacted] of Life, 1.2[redacted] Paint Alon[redacted] Young Do[redacted] Hillbillies.[redacted] Crossroad[redacted] Reports. T[redacted]

TSW As [redacted] 12[redacted] (Bernard B[redacted] 2.30 Family[redacted] Challenge.[redacted] 5.45 Cross[redacted] West. 6.30 [redacted] Casablanc[redacted] Closedown[redacted]

TYNE T[redacted] Only Arske[redacted] 1.20pm-1.3[redacted] 5.15-5.45 T[redacted] Crossroads[redacted] 12.25am He[redacted]

TVS As London except: 10.25am Hedgehog. 10.50 Profiles in Rock: Abba 11.10 Struggle Beneath the Sea. 11.40-12.00 Little Rascals. 12.30pm-1.00 Crown Court. 1.20 News. 1.30 To Win at All Costs. 2.30 Chips. 3.30-4.00 Take The High Road. 5.15-5.45 Terrahawks. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.35-7.00 Crossroads. 12.25am Company Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 9.25am First Thing. 10.25 Tarzan. 11.20 Educational Short. 11.25-12.00 Lost Kingdoms. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5,45 Mr Smith. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.30 Police News. 6.35-7.00 Crossroads. 12.25am Reflections. 12.30 News, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 10.25am Born to Run. 10.50 Jump. 11.05 Joe 90. 11.30 Matt and Jenny on the Wilderness Trail. 11.55-12.00 Cartoon. 12.30pm That's Hollywood. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 Calendar. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35- 7.00 Crossroads. 12.25am Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 110.25am Film Fun. 10.50 Road to Los Angeles. 11.40-12.00 Joe 90. 12.30pm-1.00 Crown Court. 1.20 News. 1.30-3.30 On the Beat (Norman Wisdom). 5.15-5.45 Whose Baby? 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25-700 News 12.25am Come Close. 12.40 Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 10.25am World We Live in. 10.50 Stan and Ollie. 11.10-12.00 Father Murphy. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.35-7.00 Crossroads. 12.25 News. Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 10.25am Diff'rent Strokes. 10.50 Friends of my Friends. 11.10 Sport Billy. 11.35 Groovy Ghoulies. 12.00-12.10pm Flicks. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.30 Family Trees. 4.00-4.15 Flicks. 5.15 Tales at Teatime. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30-700 Take the High Road. 12.25am Late Call, Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 10.25am European Folk Tales. 10.40 Cambridge Folk Festival. 11.05 Land of the Dragon. 11.30 Spread Your Wings. 11.55-12.00 Wattoo, Wattoo. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35-7.00 Crossroads. 12.25am Big Question, Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: Starts 12.00-12.10pm Emma and Grandpa. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.30 Family Trees. 3.00-3.30 University Challenge. 5.15-5.45 Beverly Hillbillies* 6.00 Channel report. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55 Jazz. 7.00-8.00 Casablanca. 12.25am Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN. † Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

Entertainments

CINEMAS

EXHIBITIONS

ART GALLERIES

THE TIMES

★★★★★ First Published 1785

Hasty US pullout blocked by Thatcher

Continued from page 1

not had the support of either Syria or the Soviet Union.

Sir Geoffrey will visit Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Syria. Although details of his programme have not yet been completed, there are hopes that he will meet President Mubarak of Egypt, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and possibly President Assad of Syria.

Any move to have the multinational force replaced by a UN force would be greatly stimulated by the increasing political pressures being exerted in the United States, France, Italy and Britain by those who believe their national contingents should be withdrawn.

However, apart from the needs of political expedience, Western ministers believe there is some evidence of a greater degree of stability being achieved in Lebanon. They say President Gemayel has made progress towards achieving better relations with the other factions and that the departure of Mr Yassir Arafat and his subsequent meeting with President Mubarak may contribute to an easing of the position.

There is some hope that if the negotiations on buffer zones between the factions can be brought to a successful conclusion, this may pave the way for a period of greater stability in which it could be argued that the multinational force had done its job.

In his meeting with Mr Gromyko, Sir Geoffrey is likely to emphasize the need to achieve a gradual reduction in East-West tensions by improving the quality of the dialogue over as wide a range of topics as possible. If the Soviet Union were to withdraw its objections to an extension of the UN role in Lebanon, this would be seen as an important step towards an improvement of relations on a wider front.

Vandals destroy rare shells

Vandals who broke into the underground Goldney House grotto in Clifton, Bristol, on Sunday, destroyed countless rare irreplaceable shells collected by sea captains from all over the world in the eighteenth century.

Mr Don Carlton, of Bristol University which runs the grotto, said: "We have lost one of the great treasures of the Nation. It was a priceless collection."

Violent games of Ulster's troubled children



The urban desolation and violence of Belfast (above) and other cities in Northen Ireland is reflected in the games Ulster children play, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children said yesterday.

'It's common to see children making bombs with the building bricks . . . you have to show them how to build with them'

In a report from Ulster published to launch the society's centenary year, it noted that evidence from its 50 playgroups throughout Northern Ireland suggested some child psychologists had been too optimistic in thinking that most children could adjust to constant violence and grow up normally.

The report quotes Mrs Margaret Morrow, who manages the society's playgroups in Belfast. She says: "We have to teach them how to play. It is common to see children making bombs from the building bricks . . . you have to show them how to build with them." The society also believes that the children find violence exciting.

One girl aged 12 told an official: "I went back to Andersontown and saw a man bundled into a car and taken away for a knee-capping job. It's much more exciting there." She had recently moved home to the Falls Road.

Mr Bill Hughes, group officer in Northern Ireland, believes that "stress and worry" have become the norm.

He says: "If you are constantly subjected to physical violence on the streets . . . if you live among civil unrest for 12 years of your life, with armed police, the military, the riots, the bombs, the television funerals, and you have learnt the traditional songs and symbols of your side, I cannot see how anyone can really believe that you are not affected."

The society's report is in stark contrast to a survey in November which concluded that 14-year-olds from Ulster were no more anxious or neurotic than their counterparts in Manchester and said that in fact the nature of society in Northern Ireland may have helped them cope with violence and strife.

The society says its playgroups are meant to serve as "sanctuaries for both mothers and toddlers away from the constant violence and tension in the streets".

The report was published in a special issue of *The Children's Friend*, the NSPCC magazine; and provides a strong start to the society's centenary year.

An earlier claim by the society that at least one child a week is killed by its parents in England and Wales is raised in another special centenary publication.

"Courts in England and Wales have adjudicated that at least 57 children who died in 1982 were killed at the bands of their parents, guardians or other caretakers", the society says.

Dr Alan Gilmour, its director, adds: "We know of another five cases where a parent has been charged, but where, as far as we know, the case still has to reach a conclusion". Other child deaths from injuries by parents could have been recorded mistakenly as natural causes.

The Children's Legal Centre, a charity concerned with laws affecting young people, gives a warning today that increased police powers in the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill now at the committee stage in the Commons, could lead to "further deterioration" in relations with the police.

In a letter to Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Home Offcice, the centre urges that the Bill be amended to provide more safeguards for children and teenagers.

Tony Samstag

Letter from Bonn

Harking back to Adenauer's era

During Konrad Adenauer's lifetime, the trim, grey-slated villa, nestling beneath the spectacular Drachenfels peak and with breath-taking views down the Rhine valley to the Eifel mountains, was a very private place.

Few statesmen or politicians – apart from de Gaulle – were invited into the haven which Adenauer had built, partly with his own hands, in 1937, after being forced out of Cologne public life by the Nazis. It was the home where the old man was still living in 1949, when he began his 14 years as West Germany's first Chancellor. It was also the place where he died in 1967, at the age of 91, after a brief four years in retirement tending the thousands of his beloved roses.

But after his death one of the most famous private houses in Germany – and possible the only one in the modern world which has determined the site of a capital – became a museum, a place of pilgrimage for 100,000 visitors a year.

At the foot of the steep terraces, with their stone figurines, sculptures, hedges and, of course, narrow beds of roses, a centre commemorating his life and achievements has been opened. And today more than ever, the house in Rhöndorf, a couple of miles across the river from Bonn, has a special meaning because West Germany, as a Christian Democratic-led country, looks back with nostalgia to the Adenauer era.

A younger generation, eager to learn of the nation's ordeal during the Nazi period, looks with grave attention at the photographs and newsreels of the destruction of Cologne: the telegram from the Gestapo ordering Adenauer's arrest in 1944; the American temporary registration permit in April, 1945, forbidding him – on pain of arrest – to leave Rhondorf; a copy of the German capitulation; the letter dated May 8, 1945, from a Lieutenant-Colonel Patterson in the military government in Cologne recommending the old man as a person whose "name is number one of the white list for Germany"; the rubble and chaos of "zero hour".

An older generation, still grateful for the dignity that Adenauer restored to them, looks at his meetings with victorious Allied leaders; his journey to Moscow in 1955 to bring back the prisoners of war; his talks with the world's statesmen and the famous picture of him at Kennedy's side, looking at the newly-built Berlin Wall.

The museum records the veneration in which the old man was held at the end of his long life: signed photographs of world statesmen look down on the glass case full of medals and orders he was given

The Federal Republic has paid ample honour to its founder: in every town, especially, of course, Bonn, streets, avenues, schools and public buildings are named after him. Today's nostalgia is more for the private virtues: for the dignity, modesty, uprightness and certainty of this pious, Roman Catholic Rhinelander.

And so it is the house itself which draws the visitors.

People peer through the windows of the family dining-room; the study, with the cross of nails from the ruins of Coventry Cathedral; the terrace' room, with an oil painting by Churchill; the summer-house where he wrote his memoirs, surrounded by photographs of post-war leaders with pride of place on the desk for John Foster Dulles, his close friend.

Everything has been left as it was. The modest, bright sitting room, with pots of flowers in the windowsill, rich carpet and simple beige sofa, seems still to be inhabited.

But, apart from a housekeeper upstairs, the house im empty: Adenauer's seven sons a daughters have left it to the foundation that tends the pitch where he played Italian bowls, cuts the hedges, and sells the many booklets and biographies in the museum. The family now gather there only on special occasions for the day, as they used to

Almost every Christian Democratic politician today has a picture of Adenauer in his office and Chancellor Kohl sees himself as a political "grandson" of the old man. There is, of course, no turning back to the Adenauer era, though Christian Democrats seem sometimes wistful for those times. But there is a constant look back to the man who dominated them.

Michael Binyon

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

New exhibitions

Whiskey Road – photographs by Fay Goodwin, photographs by David Walls, McLaurin Art Gallery, Rozelle Park, Ayr; Mon to Sat 11 to 5 closed Sun (both end Jan 28).

Music

Piano recital by Simon Shewring, St David's Hall Cardiff, 1.10.

Ulster Orchestra Viennese concert, Guildhall, Londonderry, 8.

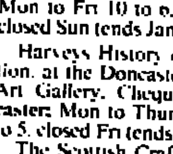
Recital by the Hunt Trio, Technical College Portadown, 8.

Exhibitions in progress

The Thrifty Needlewoman: household needlework during the 19th and 20th centuries. E. M. Flint Gallery, Walsall Museum and Art Gallery, Lichfield Street, Walsall; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 4.45, closed Sun (ends Jan 21).

Harveys History of Wine Collection, at the Doncaster Museum and Art Gallery, Chequer Road, Doncaster; Mon to Thur 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5, closed Fri (ends Jan 29).

The Scottish Crafts Collection: a touring exhibition from the Scottish Development Agency, MacLaurin Art Gallery, Rozelle Park, Ayr; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, closed Sun (ends Jan 14).



Mary Rose

The Tudor warship Mary Rose, which was raised from the Solent is now on view to the public, at a site near the Victory in Portsmouth Naval Dockyard. Viewing times are 10.30-5.30 Mon to Sat; 1-5.30 Sun (£1 for adults, 40p for children and Senior Citizens). Access is through the Victory Gate, near the Keppel's Head hotel. Next summer a large permanent exhibition of artefacts from the ship will be opened in the dockyard, but in the meantime visitors can see a variety of salvaged objects in Southsea Castle, on the sea-front road (every day, including Sat and Sun, 10.5).

LEPRA appeal

This Diamond Jubilee year of LEPRA, the charity devoted to the prevention and cure of leprosy, will be marked by events, including: £100,000 "Eye for a gem – a gem for an eye" jewelry appeal, to be launched next Tuesday (proceeds to help prevent blindness from leprosy); an auction of jewelry donated to the appeal and, on Feb 15, a thanksgiving service at All Hallows by the Tower, which will be attended by The Queen as LEPRA's Patron. There will also be fund-raising events throughout the year.

Careers guides

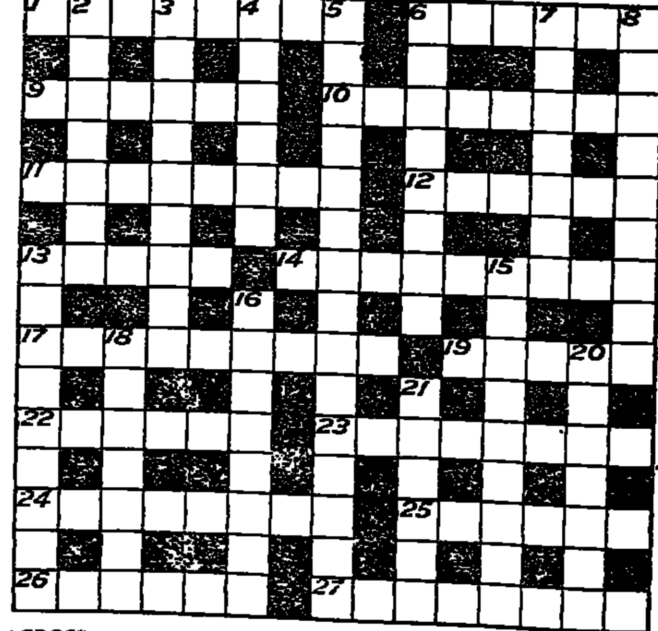
Young people contemplating careers in fine arts, design, hairdressing, servicing and repair, police, shops or with animals will find the new booklets in the *Working In* series invaluable assistance. The Careers and Occupational Information Centre (COIC) has just launched the seven new titles to add to 29 previous booklets, published by the Manpower Services Commission, which gives a close insight into the daily routine of each occupation.

Each 16-page booklet takes the form of a series of profiles of job holders. They give a definitive picture of each occupation including personal and educational requirements, job descriptions, career prospects and training opportunities – not only the good points, but also the drawbacks. The aim is to provide the incentive for a young person to strive for entry into his or her chosen career, with sound factual information, based on well-researched facts and not unfounded supposition.

The new titles are: *Working In Hairdressing; Working in the Police; Working in Shops; Working in Work with Animals; Working in Arts and Crafts; Working in Design; Working in Service and Repair.*

The new booklets, like the rest of the series, are aimed at young people, their parents, careers teachers, FE lecturers, company training officers, YTS tutors, public libraries, Jobcentres and Job Libraries. Single copies cost 95p plus 25p postage and are available from the MSC, c/o Papworth Industries, Papworth Everard, Cambridge, CB3 8RG. Orders of more than £10 are obtainable from COIC, MSC, Moorfoot, Sheffield S1 4PQ.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,327



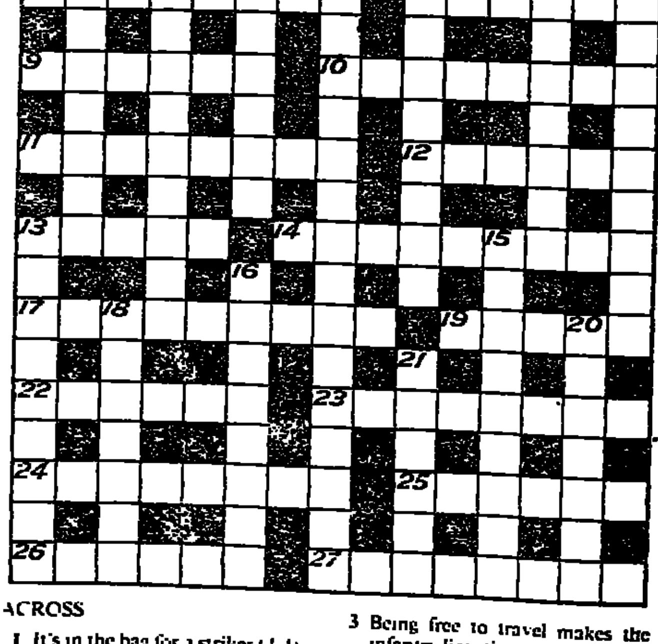
ACROSS

1 It's in the bag for a striker (4-4).
6 Guide loses his bearings as a speaker (6).
9 A small carrier at sea (6).
10 Edge near disaster as a deserter (8).
11 Bullet? Perhaps it's a means of projecting one (8).
12 Backward state gets member to improve (6)
13 That classical island language (5).
14 Play intended, we hear, to complete a bill (9).
17 Stable attendant whose temper may be uncertain (9).
19 Tuck away short-sleeved shirt inside cummerbund (5).
22 Socially awkward, like the French Left (6).
23 Does tenor tuba sound thus pleasing? (8).
24 Join links and perhaps get a round (8).
25 Fly in to Madeira via Tenerife (6).
26 Young Scot, poorly plaided when penniless (6).
27 Flat dogma about people (8).

DOWN

2 With which to give the starting signal informally? (7).
3 Being free to travel makes the infantry licentious (9).
4 Up to the minute news for the most backward (6).
5 Place for sale – one may strike it on the Underground (7,8).
6 Shrink to agree marriage (8).
7 Issue of a manatee, when the last shall be first (7).
8 The flight path when you project too far? (9).
13 Having no good reason to recondition Gallic oil (9).
15 Religious school of acting? (9).
16 One kind of effrontery exhibited here (4-4).
18 Jumped like a cellar boy (7).
20 Afflicted like those born first in Egypt (7).
21 Swallow one aspirin perhaps for this wrench (6).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,326



CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8

New books – crime fiction

The Literary Editor's selection of crime novels published last year:
Berlin Game, by Len Deighton (Hutchinson, £8.95)
Fire Falcon, by Duff Hart-Davis (Cape, £7.95)
Gunner Kelly, by Anthony Price (Gollancz, £7.95)
Hindsight, by Peter Dickinson (the Bodley Head, £7.95)
People Who Knock on the Door, by Patricia Highsmith (Heinemann, £7.95)
The Danger, by Dick Francis (Michael Joseph, £7.95)
The Dark Fantastic, by Stanley Ellin (Andre Deutsch, £8.95)
The Name of the Rose, by Umberto Eco (Secker & Warburg, £8.95)
Think Big, Think Dirty, by William Garner (Heinemann, £7.95)

PH

Anniversaries

Births: **King Camp Gillette**, inventor of the safety razor, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, 1855; **Konstantin Stanislavsky**, founder of the Moscow Art Theatre (New Style Jan 17), Moscow, 1863; **Konrad Adenauer**, first Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, 1949-63, Cologne, 1876; **Humbert Wolfe**, poet and critic, Milan, 1886-he died this day in London, 1940. Deaths: **Sir Ernest Shackleton**, Antarctic explorer, South Georgia, 1922; **Calvin Coolidge**, 30th President of the USA 1923-29, Northampton, Massachussets, 1933.

The papers

The New York Times says that the release of Lieut. Robert Goodman, though welcome, was achieved at the expense of President Reagan's authority in the midst of negotiations with Syria. "By thus undercutting Reagan for partisan advantage, the Rev. Jesse Jackson has done nothing to enhance his own reputation as a diplomat", it claims, adding "neither has Syria's action made President Assad a humanitarian. The Syrians were clear about why they joined in this publicity stunt: because they want to encourage agitation in America for withdrawal of the Marines from Lebanon. They handed over Goodman because they want to make Lebanon safer for Syrian domination." The paper says, however, that it does not follow that anything Syria wants is automatically bad for the United States. That Syria wants the Marines out of Beirut is no argument for keeping them there. "Those 1,800 troops are more nearly hostages than Goodman ever was. They are trapped in a factional crossfire they cannot hope to subdue. Their main mission is no longer to protect others, only themselves. If the Marines were not already in Lebanon – for peacekeeping reasons that no longer apply – no responsible American leader would send them. The only purpose their presence still serves is the President's desire not to be seen retreating. In the words of the Pentagon's inquiry there is an urgent need for finding diplomatic alternatives."

The Wall Street Journal says that President Assad of Syria apparently decided that it suited his own political needs to release a black hostage to a man seeking Ronald Reagan's job . . . The Syrian no doubt hopes to boost Mr Jackson's status with American voters and maybe subtract a little from Mr Reagan." It stated that this is not intended as criticism of Mr Jackson. "A politician is entitled to attempt any honourable feat of derring-do that will help get votes. Unless he had some advance assurance from the Syrians he also ran the risk of embarrassment if the Syrians had given him a cold shoulder. Mr Jackson pulled it off with style. . ."

Roads

London and South-east: A4088: Eastbound traffic diverted in Forty Lane, Wembley. A35: Drainage repairs in Lyndhurst, adjacent Crown Hotel: avoid in peak hours. A245: Single alternate lane in Stoke Road, Cobham, between Mizen Lane and Blundell Road. Temporary signals.

Midlands: A47: Roadworks at Etling Green, nr East Dereham, Norfolk. A41: Temporary signals on Newport-Whitchurch road at Tern Hill, Shropshire. A34: Roadworks south of Shipston on Stour, at Tidmington, Warwickshire: delays.

Wales and West: A35: Single-lane traffic controlled by temporary signals on Axminster-Honiton road between Kilmington and Loughwood, Devon. A40: Temporary lights on Bancyfelin-Carmarthen road. M5: North and southbound carriageway lane closures between junction 8 and 9, due roadworks.

North: A575: Major sewer scheme in Egerton Street, Farnworth, Greater Manchester, diversions. A1(M): Lane closures at Peareth Hall, Washington, Tyne and Wear.

Scotland: A726: Lane closures at junction 29 (M8), Renfrewshire: delays likely. A9: south of Blair Atholl: single lane with traffic lights. A8: Single lane in each direction at Haymarket Terrace nr Coates Terrace, Edinburgh.

Information supplied by AA.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.66	1.57
Austria Sch	28.90	27.30
Belgium Fr	84.25	80.25
Canada $	1.83	1.76
Denmark Kr	14.78	14.08
Finland Mkk	8.71	8.31
France Fr	12.40	11.90
Germany DM	4.08	3.89
Greece Dr	169.00	155.00
Hongkong $	11.40	10.80
Ireland Pt	1.31	1.26
Italy Lira	2485.00	2365.00
Japan Yen	347.00	329.00
Netherlands Gld	4.59	4.36
Norway Kr	11.60	11.00
Portugal Esc	198.00	187.00
South Africa Rd	1.84	1.71
Spain Pta	233.00	223.00
Sweden Kr	12.02	11.42
Switzerland Fr	3.28	3.11
USA $	1.46	1.41
Yugoslavia Dnr	220.00	206.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 341.9

London: The *FT* index closed down 1.5 at 770.3.

Weather forecast

A deep depression near southern Greenland will move NE towards Iceland with associated troughs of low pressure moving south-eastwards over Great Britain.

6 am to midnight

London, East Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands: Cloudy with rain during morning clearing from NW to give a mainly dry and sunny afternoon: wind SW veering NW moderate or fresh: max temp 6C to 8C (43-46F).

SE England, Channel Islands: Cloudy with rain becoming clearer and drier later; SW veering NW moderate or fresh; max temp 7C to 8C (45-46F).

E, SW, Central N England, W Midlands, S Wales: Rain for a while at first, then sunny periods and isolated showers; SW veering NW fresh; max temp 7C to 8C (45-46F).

N Wales, NW, NE England, Lake District: Rain soon clearing, then sunny intervals and showers, NW fresh; max temp 6C to 7C (43-45F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Moray Firth: Sunny intervals, isolated showers, NW fresh; max temp 5C to 7C (41-45F).

Isle of Man, SW, NE, NW Scotland, Central Highlands, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland, Northern Ireland: Brief sunny intervals, showers, frequent in exposed places, perhaps turning wintry later, NW strong to gale; max temp 5C to 7C (41-45F).

Outlook, for tomorrow and Friday Changeable with some sunny intervals and showers but longer periods of rain at times, especially in Scotland; near normal temperatures.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): wind SW strong or gale veering NW moderate; sea very rough becoming slight. St Georges Channel: wind mainly NW strong decreasing moderate; sea very rough becoming slight. Irish Sea: W fresh or strong, sea moderate or rough.

Sun rises: 8.06 am Sun sets: 4.06 pm

Moon rises: 9.57 am Moon sets: 6.12 pm

First Quarter: January 11.

Lighting-up time

London 4.36 pm to 7.35 am
Bristol 4.46 pm to 7.45 am
Edinburgh 4.24 pm to 8.12 am
Manchester 4.34 pm to 7.54 am
Penzance 5.04 pm to 7.51 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud, f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

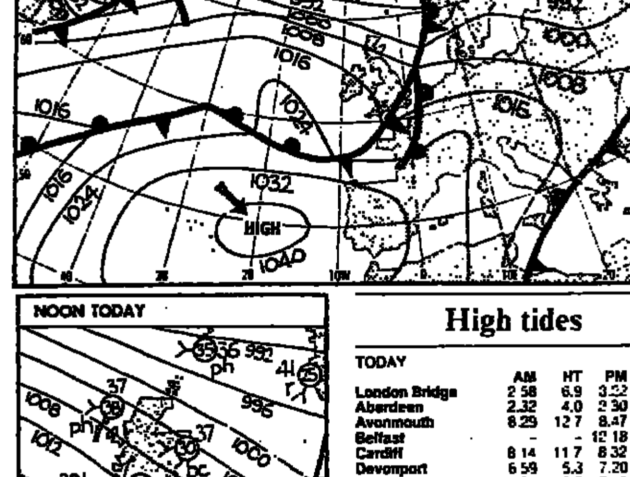
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	s	4	39	Guernsey	f	7	45
Birmingham	c	5	41	Inverness	f	2	36
Blackpool	s	6	43	Jersey	f	7	45
Bristol	s	8	46	London	s	7	45
Cardiff	s	8	43	Manchester	s	5	41
Edinburgh	s	3	37	Newcastle	s	4	39
Glasgow	s	4	39	Ronaldsway	f	3	37

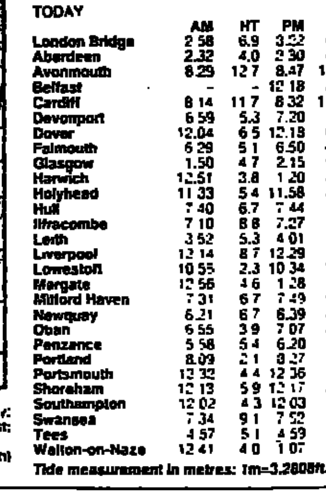
London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7C (45F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Humidity: 6 pm, 76 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 5.7hrs. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1022.6 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Gwennaphead (Cornwall) 9C (48F); lowest day max: Aviemore 0C (32F); highest rainfall: Aberdeen 0.33in; highest sunshine, Exmouth 6.8hr.





b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled, temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.58	6.9	3.22	6.9
Aberdeen	2.32	4.0	2.30	4.2
Avonmouth	8.29	12.7	8.47	12.3
Belfast	–	–	12.18	3.5
Cardiff	8.14	11.7	8.32	11.4
Devonport	6.59	5.3	7.20	5.1
Dover	12.04	6.5	12.18	6.3
Falmouth	6.29	5.1	6.50	4.9
Glasgow	1.50	4.7	2.15	5.1
Harwich	12.51	3.8	1.20	3.8
Holyhead	11.33	5.4	11.58	5.1
Hull	7.40	6.7	7.44	7.1
Ilfracombe	7.10	8.8	7.27	8.4
Leith	3.52	5.3	4.01	5.3
Liverpool	12.14	8.7	12.29	9.0
Lowestoft	10.55	2.3	10.34	2.5
Margate	12.56	4.6	1.28	[illegible]
Milford Haven	7.31	6.7	7.49	[illegible]
Newquay	6.21	6.7	6.39	[illegible]
Oban	6.55	3.9	7.07	[illegible]
Penzance	5.58	5.4	6.20	5.2
Portland	8.09	2.1	8.27	1.9
Portsmouth	12.32	4.4	12.36	4.4
Shoreham	12.13	5.9	12.17	5.9
Southampton	12.02	4.3	12.03	4.3
Swansea	7.34	9.1	7.52	8.7
Tees	4.57	5.1	4.59	5.3
Walton-on-Naze	12.41	4.0	1.07	4.0

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	5.2	–	5	41	Sunny	Guernsey	5.9	–	9	48	Bright
Bridlington	5.1	.04	5	41	Sunny	Scilly Isles	5.8	–	9	48	Sunny
Cromer	2.7	.17	5	41	Gale am	Newquay	4.2	.02	8	46	Bright
Lowestoft*						Ilfracombe	1.3	.10	*	*	Bright
Clacton	5.1	.07	5	41	Sunny	Tenby	5.5	–	7	45	Sunny
Margate	*	.06	6	43	Bright	Southport	4.7	.02	6	43	Bright
Folkestone	4.1	–	6	43	Sunny pm	Morecambe	5.3	.12	5	41	Sunny
Hastings	4.5	–	7	45	Sunny pm	Douglas	4.4	.17	6	43	Hail pm
Eastbourne	4.0	–	7	45	Sunny pm	London (Ctrl)	5.7	–	7	45	Sunny
Brighton	*	–	5	41	Sunny	B'ham (Airpt)	5.0	.02	5	41	Shwrs am
Worthing	5.3	–	7	45	Sunny	Bristol (Ctrl)	5.7	.02	7	45	Sunny
Littlehmptn	*					Cardiff (Ctrl)	4.7	.05	6	43	Sunny
Bognor R	5.4	–	7	45	Sunny	Anglesey	4.0	.03	7	45	Sunny
Southsea	5.6	–	7	45	Sunny	B'pool (Airpt)	*				
Shanklin	5.6	.04	7	45	Sunny	Manchester	6.0	.01	6	43	Sunny
Bournemth	5.6	–	7	45	Sunny	Nottingham	5.9	.03	5	41	Sunny
Poole*						N'cstl-n-Tyne	4.9	–	4	39	Sunny
Swanage	6.5	–	8	46	Sunny	Carlisle	5.1	–	4	39	Sunny
Weymouth	6.3	.01	8	46	Sunny	Eskdalemuir	4.7	–	2	36	Sunny
Exmouth	6.8	.04	7	45	Sunny	Prestwick	3.6	–	5	41	Bright
Torquay	6.2	.03	8	46	Sunny	Glasgow	3.1	–	4	39	Sunny am
Falmouth	3.2	.08	8	46	Bright	Tiree	1.1	.13	5	41	Hail

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud, f, fair; r, rain; s, sun, sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	s	12	54	Copenhgn	s	5	41	Majorca	f	13	55	Rio de Jan*	f	28	82
Akrotiri	f	17	63	Corfu	f	16	61	Malaga	f	14	57	Rome	c	14	57
Alexandria				Dallas*	c	8	46	Malta	f	16	61	Salzburg	f	4	39
Algiers	c	12	54	Dublin	s	3	37	Melbourne	f	20	68	Sao Paulo*	f	28	82
Amsterdam	f	7	45	Dubrovnik	c	12	54	Mexico C*	s	12	54	S Francisco*	s	11	52
Athens	s	13	55	Faro	s	13	55	Miami*	f	21	70	Santiago*	s	30	86
Bahrain				Florence	f	13	55	Milan	s	11	52	Seoul	s	–6	21
Barbados*	s	28	82	Frankfurt	r	3	37	Montreal*	sn	–4	25	Singapore	f	28	82
Barcelona	s	10	50	Funchal	f	18	64	Moscow	c	3	37	Stockholm	s	–2	28
Beirut	s	17	63	Geneva	c	3	37	Munich	sn	2	36	Strasbourg	r	5	41
Belgrade	f	6	43	Gibraltar	s	14	57	Nairobi	s	26	79	Sydney	s	23	73
Berlin	c	4	39	Helsinki	sn	0	32	Naples	c	12	54	Tangier	f	12	54
Bermuda*	c	18	64	Hongkong	s	14	57	New Delhi	s	18	64	Tel Aviv	s	18	64
Biarritz	f	9	48	Innsbruck	f	4	39	New York*	c	3	37	Tenerife	f	20	68
Boulogne	f	5	41	Istanbul	s	14	57	Nice	s	14	57	Tokyo	r	9	48
Bordeaux	s	8	46	Jeddah	f	29	84	Oslo	s	–3	27	Toronto*	c	–2	28
Brussels	c	4	39	Jo'burg	f	25	77	Ottawa				Tunis	s	17	63
Budapest	s	6	43	Karachi				Paris	c	5	41	Valencia	s	13	55
Buen Aires*	c	26	79	Las Palmas	f	20	68	Peking	s	2	36	Vancouver*	r	8	46
Cairo				Lisbon	s	11	52	Perth	s	24	75	Venice	c	6	43
Cape Tn	s	25	77	Locarno	s	7	45	Prague	f	3	37	Vienna	f	5	41
C'blanca	c	16	61	L Angeles*	s	18	64	Reykjavik	sn	–2	28	Warsaw	f	5	41
Chicago*	s	–2	28	Luxembg	sn	0	32	Rhodes	f	17	63	Washington*	c	6	43
Cologne	f	4	39	Madrid	f	8	46	Riyadh	s	18	64	Zurich	sn	1	34

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available